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Registered No. M. 4359

THE RATIONALIST

A weekly
for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest.
Proprietor & Editor: G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

VOL. 2 No. 1] MONDAY 22—9—1941 [PRICE 0—1—0

MYSORE UNIVERSITY

CASHIER JAILED FOR BREACH OF TRUST

The City Magistrate, Mysore, has convicted R. Munuswami, Ex. Cashier of the Mysore University Office, of criminal breach of trust and misappropriation by a public servant in respect of a sum of Rs. 660-11-0 entrusted to him in his capacity as Cashier and sentenced him to suffer rigorous imprisonment for three months, and to pay a fine of Rs. 750, in default to an additional period of three months' R. I.

In his judgment, the Magistrate observed that he would be failing in his duty if he did not point out in conclusion, that the series of embezzlements perpetrated by the accused in the easiest manner, were rendered possible only by the "negligent and irresponsible" behaviour of the supervising heads of the University Office.

Adverting to the Office Accountant's conduct, the Magistrate remarked that that conduct was marked by negligence of his duties, which almost led one to think that he had not been altogether ignorant of the misdemeanours on the part of the accused. The Accountant had further "egregiously failed" in his duty by not checking the cash book entries with vouchers and by not calling for vouchers in respect of debits, and he had clearly proved himself unfit to hold any responsible position in any office.

As regards the Manager, the Magistrate held that he had also shown, himself capable of uttering a lie in a Court of law.

One got a glimmer of the state of affairs, the Magistrate added, which rendered all this possible from the numerous reminders received from firms for payment, without the least notice being taken of them. He hoped the University authorities would look into these things and see that this state of affairs was remedied.

MANUFACTURE OF POWER ALCOHOL

FEDERATED CHAMBERS' REPRESENTATION

NEW DELHI.

The Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have suggested that the Government of India should immediately take steps for the grant of licences to those willing to manufacture power alcohol from molasses and for compelling the oil companies to mix the same with petrol whenever such alcohol could be made available at a certain fixed price.

The Committee point out that the recent scheme introduced by the Government for the rationing of petrol is bound to cause real hardship both to the general public and the commercial, industrial and agricultural interests, as it would result in the curtailment of cheap motor transport facilities which are the only means of transport in some parts of the country for the movement of primary and other products, and any such curtailment would affect the economic position of the masses.

The Committee further point out that a decision by the Government to manufacture power alcohol from molasses, would solve a very difficult problem which has been facing the sugar industry as regards the utilisation of the enormous quantities of molasses which have been a waste and a drag on the industry all these years. It is calculated that more than 425,000 tons of surplus molasses are available, after meeting the internal demand for the curing of tobacco and the manufacture of liquors, which could be utilised to produce nearly twenty-four million gallons of power alcohol for its mixture with petrol and it would act as an effective insurance against any paralysing influence on the transport facilities arising out of any scheme of petrol rationing in the country.

MYSORE SOAP FACTORY

The question of the transfer of the Mysore Government Soap Factory to a private Joint-stock concern, now seems to have been kept in abeyance. According to the Bangalore Correspondent of the Hindu the view seems to be that since this concern has been working at a great profit almost since its inception, the benefit should be derived by the tax-payer and not by a few individuals, including some capitalists. He notes also that there is the question of goodwill to be paid to Government by the new concern, and that there was a meeting of the provisional Board of Directors of the proposed concern, including the Director of Industrial concerns and the Superintendent of the Government Soap Factory, sometime last month.

LABOUR COMMISSIONER FOR MYSORE

With the passing of the Mysore Labour Act as an emergency measure, Government have appointed Mr. Appadorai Mudaliar as Labour Commissioner. In view of the amount of work entailed on him by this office and by his new office as Industrial Planning Officer, Mr. Mudaliar will be relieved of much of his responsibility as Director of Industries and Commerce. Mr. S. G. Sastri, Director of Sandal Oil Factories, it is understood, will become Director of Industries and Commerce and will continue also as Director of Sandal Oil Factories.

FAILURE TO DEVELOP INDIA'S RESOURCES

The Hindu's London Correspondent notes that Col. Josiah Wedgewood, M. P., writing in *The Star* on methods for winning the war, deplores the continued failure to develop Empire resources in men and material and that he says that there is not yet in all India, for its millions of intelligent workers, one single internal combustion engine, either being made or contemplated. "All Europe is making them for Hitler, but we do not let an even larger population to start the work for us, because, I suppose, of what may happen after the war is won."

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BEGUM SHAH NAWAZ

With reference to her decision not to resign from the National Defence Council the Begum Saheba points out that the offer made by His Excellency the Viceroy expressly excluded any mention of her representing the Muslim interests or of being a member of the League. "In his telegraphic message received by me on the 11th July through the Resident of the Kashmir State, His Excellency the Viceroy stated: 'It would give me great pleasure if you would serve as a representative of women, and as a representative also of the Punjab.'"

BRINDAVAN ILLUMINATIONS DURING DASARA

There will be special illumination of the Brindavan Gardens, Krishnarajasagar, for a period of 16 days, from Monday the 22nd September 1941 to Thursday the 7th October 1941, both days inclusive, from 7 P. M. to 9 P. M. in connection with Dasara Festivities.

A view that if Hitler conquered England he would be converted was expressed by a Mohammedan, Faizur Rasul, of Beaufort Road Edgbaston, Birmingham, when he appeared before the Midland Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal at Birmingham on June 3 (says a report in *The Manchester Guardian*.) Rasul, an hotel waiter, said that he had formed the opinion that non-violence was the best form of resistance. "The conquerors themselves are often conquered when non-violence is used," said Rasul. "For example, when the Turks conquered the Arabs, they became Mohammedans themselves. If Hitler conquered the English he would become affected by the Good English morals!" Rasul was registered as a conscientious objector for non-combatant service.

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GRINDELL-MATTHEWS DEAD

DISCOVERER OF RAY TO KILL GERMS

CARDIFF, Sep, 11.

The Death is announced from Swansea Valley to-day (Thursday) of Mr. H. Grindell-Matthews, known as "Death Ray Matthews", at the age of 61. Among his researches, it was reported, was the discovery of a ray to kill disease germs, a design of a new method of ærial defence and a design of rocket æroplane that would travel at six miles a second and might make a visit to the moon possible.

An engineer by profession, Mr. Grindell-Matthews was best known as a pioneer in radio and sound film production and as an inventor.

The following is a list of his inventions:—Automatic pilot for flying machine; in 1912 gave Command demonstration of wireless telephone between motor cars at Buckingham Palace; in 1914 controlled boats by means of searchlight (this invention was acquired by the British Government for the Admiralty); submarine detecting devices, 1915-17; talking films, photographing sound records simultaneously with pictures on the same film, the late Sir Ernest Shackleton's farewell being so recorded, 1918-24; sky projector 1925, first demonstration given in Germany and later in New York; Luminaphone—an organ played by light, 1926. He was consulting-expert on sound film production to Warner Bros., U. S. A., 1926-27—and engaged upon methods of defence from air attack and underwater craft since 1930.

The possibilities of wireless telephone early attracted him and in 1911 at cardiff, he succeeded in establishing wireless telephonic communication with an æroplane 1½ miles away and travelling at what was then considered the remarkable speed of 60 miles an hour. He also sent the first press message by radio telephone from Newport to the newspaper *Western Mail* at Cardiff. His researches, it was reported, included a means to detect submarines 30 miles away. He got his nickname of "Death Ray" from his experiment with a ray that would stop æroplane and motor-car engines. His ærial defence scheme was to "mine" air. Rockets that could reach a height of 30,000 feet in 4½ seconds, would contain a number of parachutes to which by means of thin steel wires bombs would be attached. He served throughout the South African war and was wounded twice.

To carry out his electrical research work, Mr. Matthews lived in a closely guarded bungalow on the top of a Welsh mountain, 700 feet above the sea level. He had permission to tap the electric grid system for power.

INDIA'S CASE "SEPARATE"

"The Joint Declaration does not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about the development of constitutional government in India, Burma or other parts of the British Empire," declared Mr. Churchill in the course of his speech in Parliament, explaining the implications of the Eight-Point Declaration. The Premier added:

"We have pledged, by the declaration of August, 1940, to help India to obtain free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth with ourselves, subject, of course, to the fulfilment of the obligations arising from our long connection with India and our responsibilities to its many creeds, races and interests.

"Burma also is covered by our considered policy of establishing Burma's self-government and by measures already in progress.

"At the Atlantic meeting, we had in mind primarily the extension of the sovereignty, self-government and national life of the States and nations of Europe now under Nazi yoke and the principles which should govern any alterations in the territorial boundaries of countries which may have to be made. That is quite a separate problem from the progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in regions whose peoples owe allegiance to the British Crown. We have made declarations on these matters which are complete in themselves, free from ambiguity and related to the conditions and circumstances of the territories and peoples affected. They will be found to be entirely in harmony with the conception of freedom and justice which inspired the Joint Declaration."

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The Rationalist.
Monday 22-9-1941.

THE DASARA IN MYSORE

The longest festive period of the Hindus is Dasara. The boy who would look forward to the period of holiday and merry-making, looks forward to the holidays of Dasara. The merchant who would like to have a clearance sale would have it during that period. The maiden who would think of a continuous donning of her best saris would look forward to that period. The religious man who would straighten himself up for the exhibition of fervour and devotion would do so before that period.

The Dasara is the vernacular form for the Sanskrit word which stands for "10 days," and so the Dasara would mean a festivity of ten days. In Mysore, however, it is known by the name "Navaratri"—or a festivity of "Nine nights". We shall take it then as the festivity of "nine nights and a day", and so proceed.

This festivity must have begun in Bengal, and there it centres chiefly in the adoration of the Maternal Power of the Universe in its aspect of Protectress. We might imagine the tigress when its cubs are being worried by the huntsman, how it would fiercely fling itself upon him and tear him to pieces. It is that aspect of Nature gratefully engraved in the hearts of Man, awakening his annual expositions of reverence and devotion. This is the main one, but with it are mingled other worships besides those originally due to the Nature Mother.

In Mysore, the Native State, the Dasara is more than this. It is the worship of fierce Nature, plus the commemoration of an episode in the Mahabharata from whose kings the present Special Throne of Mysore is said to have come down to us. It is only during these ten days that the Ruler of the State sits upon this throne; during the rest of the year, it is only a valued, well-guarded possession of the Palace.

It falls generally in the latter half of the month of October, and all the higher officials of the State are collected in the capital then. All the known professional and public men of the capital also are invited to attend the Palace functions of the first day, and the Durbars held on the following nights. All the women would be busy preparing for the day's feast, and adorning and setting up the dalls in the house for the edification of the girl-children of the house.

On the morning of the first day, you would see in the roads lay men invited to the Durbar, walking with black long coats and white trousers, and turbans with lace borders, and in their arms a long piece of laced white cloth ironed conveniently to be tied round the waist at the Durbar. You will see pandits and orthodox men in their white panches, and red or green or blue shawls, and also shawls improvised as turbans on their heads. There are also the sepoys and silladars in their red or green uniforms coming in twos and threes to the grounds in front of the Durbar Hall. Fifteen minutes before the time of the Durbar, you will see the grandees in office and the grandees retired, running up in carriages and cars, in their official uniforms or imposing and dignified dresses. Children and women-folk would be collecting around the Palace-front to witness the colours of the sepoys, the glistening of the arms, and the wrestling and ram and cock-fights going on there at the time of the Durbar.

About 9 A.M. on the first day, the Durbar Hall is full; on one side three or four lines of official and professional invitees squatted in rows on the carpet, on another side similar rows of members of the same community as the Ruler—"Ursoos"—with more gold and silk lace in their dress, than the others,—and a little behind them two or three rows of the pandits, priests and other orthodox retainers of the Palace. At the west end, facing the East, is the Throne, bejewelled, bedecked with flowers, and spread over with cushions of rich dyes, and richer silk and richer and softer down.

A female door keeper holds out the curtains of the door step leading from the quarters of the Palace. His Highness the Maharaja, softly and gracefully enters, and immediately

there rises an incomprehensible long drawn-out and high-toned cry from the half-a-dozen heralds standing against the walls. The assembled dignitaries rise up, and the Maharaja walks up to the throne, and immediately a priest comes up, and with brisk movements and brisker pronunciation of the hymns, assists in the royal worship of the Throne. When that is over, His Highness mounts the steps of the Throne, and rests on the cushioned seat. The lines of invitees slowly proceed, and ten or twelve form a line in front of the distant Throne, and make a deep obeisance and pass on; the order of precedence beginning with the lowest, next the Councillors, then the near relatives of Royalty and the Dewan coming last. At the Eastern end of the Hall, behind these proceedings, a nautch party sets up a play of the castanets and an exhibition of Oriental dance, which cease as soon as the invitees go back to their seats, all those present taking part in the function of the obeisance, except the orthodox men in shawls who look over the whole proceedings in dignified silence.

Then a Palace Musician or a Musical aspirant from outside come for the occasion, begins some tunes and a little later the enviable and dignified figure of the Master of Ceremonies goes up to the Throne and assumes the attitude of a humble whisperer. He goes back and immediately half-a-dozen men under him hasten with three varieties of garlands, and drop them round the necks of the invitees,—the Dewan, the Councillors and the near relatives having the very superior ones, and the others being divided into two classes for the other two kinds. Then Pan-Supari is taken round, and again the Master of Ceremonies goes up to the Throne, and then the Dewan leads in the obeisance function, and the nautch dances are set up again; the obeisance being over, His Highness gets up and descending from the throne, bows, and retires from the Hall into the inner apartments.

This is inside the Durbar Hall. Outside, arrangements are made for wrestling contests, three or four pairs one after another, and several prizes are offered for cock-fighting and ram-fighting also, and the sepoys, mounted and afoot, show some of their manoeuvres. Meanwhile the freshly painted, stately State-Elephant, the faultless, spotless and new bathed State-horse, and the venerable cow, taken in procession to the tank earlier for worship there, are led to the great gateway of the Durbar Hall, and are made to bend their heads in homage to their Master and then stand aside.

In another part of the palace, the Royal Chapel, the images of deities are set up and worshipped with particular reverence when poor Brahmins are engaged in reciting the four Vedas, and reading the numerous Epics and perform other protective, benefitial religious Ceremonies. All these will be continued during the 8 days following, and brought to conclusion. After the Durbar, the men return to their homes and have family feasts. There would also be a feast for the Royal caste men in the Palace.

Then in the evening there would be a Durbar again; but without any religious function like the worship of the Throne. There would be some music but the dance, which was once in vogue, has latterly been stopped as indecorous in the light of modern enlightened public opinion. During the night Durbars, you will find it very pretty to witness from the Palace-front the arrangement of the many coloured electric lights on the huge dome and the stone walls of the Palace. Even from a distance and in the neighbouring villages, people gaze at the lustrous haze rising from the dome lights far up into the sky. There is some wrestling, some manoeuvring of the military men, and then the fire-works which form a great attraction for the children and rustic folk crowding to see the sight. In private homes, the girl children assemble their children friends to see their family dolls collected and put up in decorous styles, and sing doll-songs, and concoct doll-marriages and, after distributing doll-sweets to the assembled Lady Liliputs, allow them to disburse and then go themselves to the homes of each of them, to see their dolls, and receive sweets.

On the Seventh day of the Dasara falls the Saraswati festival. It is a gala-day to students. All the books in the house are collected, especially Sanskrit ones, and placed

(To be continued on page 7)

CHIKKADEVARAJA VINNAPPAM

A review of this Tamil translated work appeared in this paper in its issue of the 7th July last.

The following is the gist of the thirty Vinnappams:-

In the first Vinnappam he,the Royal Author, proclaims the unbounded grace of the Lord by stating that it is for the reclamation of the devotees (Bhaktas) that Sriman Narayana, the possessor of all enjoyable objects, has assumed the aspects of Manifestation Supreme (Para), Manifestation Operative (Vyuha), Manifestation Distinctive (Vibhava), Manifestation Pervasive (Antaryamitva) and Manifestation Worshippable (Archavatara). In the second he demonstrated that Sriman Narayana alone is the cause of the Universe. In the third he demolished the objection that He, who is the cause of the Universe, could not be known. In the fourth he described how the knowledge of Him who is the cause of the Universe, is derived from the Veda Shastras alone. In the fifth he made known the manner whereby all those Veda Shastras lead to Sriman Narayana only. In the sixth he dispelled the seeming inconsistensies in those Veda Shastras. In the seventh he established that as ordained in those Veda Shastras the Universe, which is the body of Narayana, is not false (an illusion) but is real. In the eighth, that there might not be any delusion that the Universe is false on the analogy of dreams, he showed that, as at such times the Lord of the Universe brings into existence the things seen in the dreams, they are real. In the ninth he met the objection that, as the Universe is created with differentiation, the Lord of the Universe is partial and merciless. In the tenth, to the contention that on the analogy of pot, kite and the like, the three causes for the creation of the Universe are different agencies, he gave the convincing reply that the animate and the inanimate bodied Lord of the Universe is solely Himself the three kinds of causes.

Thus in these ten Vinnappams he described Iswara Tatwa (God-Truth) as he made known that Sriman Narayana alone is supremely merciful, the cause of the Universe, limitlessly magnanimous, known from all the Vedas, of miraculous actions, animate and inanimate bodied, the possessor of the power of bringing together those that would not join with one another, universally the same to all, and the three agencies required for creation.

In the eleventh Vinnappam he described the nature of Soul-Truth (Jeeva Tatva). In the twelfth he showed the system in the creation of the verities, the animate and the inanimate. In the thirteenth he analysed the manner of Bramhanda (Bramha's world) creation. In the fourteenth he determined the position of the fourteen lokas (worlds) in the Bramhanda. In the fifteenth he calculated the dimensions of Bhumandala (world). In the sixteenth he made known the situation of Bhu (attached to this world) Swargas where bliss is enjoyed. In the seventeenth he narrated in detail the conditions of Naraka (hell) where sufferings are undergone. In the eighteenth after showing that the resultants of sin would be cruel, he impressively stated that all these sins would be washed away by Bhakti (Holy love) alone at the lotus feet of Sriman Narayana.

Thus after describing Parathva Swarupa (Lord's nature) in the succeeding Vinnappams up to this, he narrated Achit Swarupa (Nature of Matter) since he described the system of material creation, the extent of Bramhanda born out of these materials, the situation of the fourteen Lokas in the Bramhanda, of these Lokas the dimensions of Bhumandala, the Bhu Swargas, the woes in Naraka and the means of avoiding those woes

In this manner by eighteen Vinnappams he demonstrated the Tatva-Traya (the three verities) of Iswara (God), Chetana (liege) and Achetana (matter). If the status of the three verities is enquired into, the joys of the last two Tatwas,—Chit and Achit,—being meagre and ephemeral, renunciation of the same and attachment to Iswara Tatwa, being the only eternal bliss, would result.

In the next twelve Vinnappams he explained that to those in whom renunciation in Vishaya (sense-objects) and Bhakti (Holy-love) in the Supreme Lord, is thus born, the knowledge of the means to Moksha (True Salvation) is necessary. Accordingly :—

In the nineteenth Vinnappam he laid the foundation that out of the four Purusharthas (soul-sought ends or goals) Moksha is the highest. In the twentieth he enunciated that the means to Moksha is to be known only from Sathvik Shastras. In the twenty first he built by argument that of all the Tantras, Sri Pancharatra alone is the highest authority. In the twenty second, he removed the objction that Vishaya renunciation which is conducive to Moksha, is hard of achievement In the twenty third he established that Mukti (Release) could not be had from Karma (Work) only. In the twenty fourth he dispelled the delusion, that the desired results would accrue from time (Kala,) work, (Karma), nature (Svabhava) etc, In the twenty fifth he showed that the Lord of the Universe, who grants everything that is desired, will give to those who desire other Purusharthas those Purusharthas, because of their persistent desire ; and that to those who desire Moksha He will graciously and gladly bestow even Moksha. In the twenty sixth he made known that excepting Narayana, none else has the power of protection. In the twenty seventh he made it certain that he who desires Moksha need not be brooding over his sins but should take courage by thinking on God's qualities. In the twenty eighth he enlightened how the Lord of the Universe Himself will free us from contact with Avidya (ignorance), Kama (work), Vasana (result of previous attachment), Ruchi (Taste) and Prakriti (Material), which are the roots of Samsara. In the twenty ninth he repeated what had been said, namely, that the beautful and refulgent Form of Sriman Narayana is Apprakritam (non-material) and is enjoyable to Muktas (Released). In the thirtieth Vinnappam having declared that Kainkaryam (God-service) to Paravasudeva (The Supreme Omnipresent Lord) would be the supreme bliss to Muktas, he successfully completed the work,

(*continued from page 5*)

and worshipped along with the Gods. Saraswati is the Minerva of Indra, the Goddess to whom the school pays homage, and thinks with devotion at the time of the examination—the Goddess whom Ravivarma has embalmed in Canvas with exquisite manipulation of of colours. No reading that day for students. They are off freely for games.

On the ninth day, called the Mahanavami, or "Great Navami" there is again a morning Durbar in the Palace, with military significance for the worship of the weapons, armours and guns of the palace. To-day the craftsmen put by and venerate their tools. To-day also horses are shown particular honour. Vaishnavite Brahmins—who deem Saraswati a Saivite Goddess,—worship to-day, the horse faced God—"Hayavadana", the author of their learning. This night also is of special interest at the Durbar, because the European officers and invitees, and the Resident attend it and more fire-works are arranged.

The morrow is the last day; "The Day of Triumph" it is called. This morning His Highness takes leave of the Great Throne after a parting religious ceremony, and closing Durbar. To-day orthodox men who have vowed to finish the austere reading of the Ramayana within nine days—as a performance which will procure benefits to the performer—finish the reading and hold feasts To-day in the evening is the State procession. About four O'clock in the afternoon, the roadsides and the house tops will be thronged with people and the procession of the troops, and the State Chariots, and State Elephants start amidst guns' firing, the Maharaja seated in a rich howda on the State Elephant, other elephants also with gilt howdas following. The procession reaches a particular kind of tree, a mile and odd away from the city, and after a religious observance there, connected with the resumption of weapons by the Pandava princes after fourteen years of expatriation and a year of incognito, in the Epic Tale, Mahabharata.—turn back towards the city It is night by this, and fresh lustre and interest is added to the procession by the delightful arrangements of electric lights and electric torches which are brilliant on the gold and glitter, and scarlet and green which are moving en-masse.

A little late at night the procession reaches the Palace, again amidst firing guns and the great feast closes.

Only the great feast is over. Other things are yet to come. Along with the feast is opened a fortnight's exhibition of Industries and Commerce and Health and Education. In a few days after the Tenth, there will be a State Assembly of Representatives, where the pushing men and the leading men of all parts of the State come to ventilate their desires and grievances, and there are horse-races and polo trophies, and Circus Companies and Dramatic Troops, and Foot ball and Tennis and Cricket and Badmintan matches in the after-noons and evenings.

Then, well, the holiday makers go back, the officers go back to their authoritative nooks, the school boys hesitatingly return to school, the dolls are put into the basket, and once again commences the drudgery of life; children to school, male elders to solve the problem of existence, and women to the harassing cares of the family and the Machinery of Government to run its eternal course, on everlasting principles.

The Editor regrets to greet his readers again from a sick-bed, which may be described as a place where unknown forces make man shorn of all his worth and then hold the live skeleton in a boiling cauldron of oil! Ed.

NO WAR IS 'JUST'

THE POPE'S "NO" TO U. S. PRESIDENT
REFUSES TO SIDE ALLIES AGAINST NAZIS.

New York

According to the *New York Times* Rome correspondent, the Pope gave a polite "no" to a request from President Roosevelt, conveyed through Mr. Myron Taylor, the President's personal envoy, to the Holy See, that the Pope should declare war against Nazism as a just war. It is understood, however, that the Pope's reply is so worded as not to indicate any favour towards the Nazis.

The letter from President Roosevelt to the Pope is understood to be long and cordial and contained a promise that the United States would do all in its power to restore religious liberty in Russia after the war.

The Pope's reply—even longer than President Roosevelt's—contained many cordial words to the President and the American people. The Pope's problem appears to have been inability to take sides, and his unwillingness on doctrinal grounds to consider any war "just."

An earlier Vichy message stated:

Mr. Myron Taylor, President Roosevelt's personal envoy to the Holy See, who arrived in Rome last week, bearing a message from the President to H. H. the Pope, had an hour's interview with His Holiness on Tuesday, according to a Vatican City despatch.

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VOL. 2 No. 2] MONDAY 29—9—1941 [PRICE 0—1—0

INDIAN DEFENCE LOANS

SIMLA.

Subscriptions to the second Defence Loan for the week ending September 13, 1941, amounted to Rs. 92,38,000, says a press communique. The total amount subscribed to the interest-free Defence Bonds up to September 13, 1941, was Rs. 2,53,45,000; to the three per cent second Defence Loan Rs. 36,40,86,000 (including conversions) and to the Post Office ten-year Defence Savings Certificates Rs. 3,62,92,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to September 13, 1941, is Rs. 87,42,94,000.

* * *

Thus within a year a sum equal to nearly two years' normal military expenditure of the country has been contributed by the public! Not a bad contribution! Ed.

SUBSIDIES TO SHIPPING AND AIR SERVICES

REDUCTION UNDER CONSIDERATION

SIMLA.

The question of continuing the subsidies to the Imperial Airways, the National Airways and the P. and O. Company on reduced scales seems to be engaging the attention of the Government of India. The amounts payable to these companies in peace time are in the neighbourhood of 15 lakhs and 3 lakhs of rupees and £30,000 respectively for a certain number of guaranteed services in each case.

Until about June, last year, the services were maintained more or less according to the schedule though the delays—in some instances enormous delays—were inevitable. Subsequent developments, however, have rendered them almost impossible to adhere to the schedule and the question has arisen whether the subsidies should not be reduced substantially.

IRON AND STEEL CONTROL IN MYSORE

RELAXATIONS IN RESTRICTIONS

In pursuance of the provisions of Clause 7 of Iron and Steel (Control of distribution) Order of 1941, Government have now passed an Order (No. D. 1150—I. W. 7-41-2, dated 30th August 1941), published in the *Mysore Gazette* of September 1941, relaxing the restrictions in respect of small quantities of Iron and Steel. Under this Order, licenses are not necessary for the acquisition or disposal of the following categories and quantities of Iron and Steel by one person in one month:—

	Cwts.
Light structurals (including light sections of joists, channels, angles, tees and light rails of 30 lbs. and under) ...	5
Black sheets (plain and corrugated) ...	3
Galvanised sheets (plain and corrugated) ...	2
Plates (ordinary mild steel and high tensile)	2
Bars (including flats, squares, rounds, hexagons and rods)	5
Bolts, nuts, rivets, washers and screws ...	1
Black or galvanised wire, whether plain or barbed	1
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"CONGRESS REGIME IN MADRAS"

KUMBAKONAM.

Mr. K. M. Sheriff, President of the Council of Action of the South India Anti-Separation Conference, Kumbakonam, states :—

The report of an interview given by Mr. M. H. Gazdar, Mayor of Karachi, to *The Hindu* correspondent, regarding the treatment meted out to Madrasi Muslims by the Congress Government, has given an opportunity to Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan to tilt at the Congress even at this late hour. He says in his letter to *The Hindu* of September 15: "Muslims of Madras suffered a good deal under the Congress Government." Such vague and groundless allegations will hardly convince anybody. Even the "Pirpur Report" has precious little to say about the so-called sufferings of the Madrasi Muslims. I feel sure all sane men who have the good name of this Province at heart would wish Mr. Hameed Khan to specify those "sufferings," in which case every Muslim and non-Muslim would join in obtaining releif from those "sufferings," or he should in decency desist from riding his hobby-horse any longer.

* * *

It is not that Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan can point out any injustices under Congress Regime in Madras. In fact no injustices were inflicted on Muslims. They were given all that they were entitled to along with other public. If there had been injustices Mr. A. H. Khan and his band would have made it impossible for the Congress Government to carry on, as they know how everywhere. What he really implies is that Muslims then were not given besides their due share, shares of all other major and minor communities in the official loaves and fishes! For instance, as recently in Hyderabad, where one-tenth only of the population are Muslims and nine-tenths are Hindus and others, 7/8 of the appointments to Civil Service have been given to Muslims! That is the kind of thing that Mr. Khan wants, and how he can call himself a social being with such a mentality, is a wonder! Ed.

COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING IN RUSSIA

CITIZENS FROM 16 TO 50 CALLED UP

LONDON.

All Russian men between the ages of sixteen and fifty are to undergo military training.

The State Defence Committee made the announcement in the following order, says the Moscow radio, "considering that every citizen of the Soviet Union who is able to carry arms must have military training, so as to be ready to defend his country with weapons in his hands and, aiming at preparing trained reserves for the Red Army, the State Defence Committee has decided firstly, that on and after October 1, 1931, all male citizens of the Soviet Union between the ages of 16 and 50 are to undergo compulsory training; secondly, that the training is to take place outside working hours without taking the men from workshops, factories, collective farms and other organisations."

Other points declare that the training is to take the form of a 110 hours programme at times which will not interfere with normal work, particular attention being paid to building, handling machine-guns, rifles, minelayers and hand-grenades, anti-gas protection, camouflage, and training as lone fighters as well as in detachments.

The first groups called up will be 1923 and 1924 classes. Reservists and untrained are to be called up until the age of 45. Regional committees for the settlement of the main problems are to be organised under the Peoples' Commissariat for Defence.

CONTROL OF PRICE OF PAPER

INDIAN JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION'S PLEA

CALCUTTA.

At a meeting of the Indian Journalists' Association the following resolution was adopted:

"This meeting views with great anxiety the progressive rise in the price of paper and urges upon the Government the immediate necessity for controlling the price of Indian mill-made paper, so that the publication business is relieved of the unusual strain on it due to the rise of mill prices and even more the retail prices. The rationing and control of imported paper will further tend to raise the price of paper of this class. This meeting urges the Government to exercise immediate control on the price of paper so that the publication bussiness is saved from ruin."

* * *

Our State, with its Paper Mill, is perhaps worse even than outside. And Government are doing nothing. Ed.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

What, then, can India teach us? *Max Muller has asked this question and answered it.* First of all, as to the completion of our religious record, India enables us to attain a broad human consciousness. It is known beyond question that *the gods of each race are the gods of other races.* They have been wrapped up *in different names*, Indra, Zeus, Jupiter, Vata, Woan, —and once seemed to represent different ideas....But in the light of scientific facts, the gods themselves disappear, and with them the ignorant strife between race and race, nation and nation (mostly about their gods,) each believing the other idolatrous, false, or fantastic. *They are worshipping the same God.* So India teaches us....And is not Christendom sending out thousands of missionaries to the East to pit Christian and Hebrew gods against Hindu and Moslem gods: to hurl one sacred name against another, *a commerce of insults dividing mankind instead of uniting them?* But above them all, above Indra, and Allah, and Jehova, bends the same sky from which they were all drawn, sending its sunshine and its rain with impartial beneficence on all. *Once let these divine ensigns and names that sunder races, disappear;* once let it be seen that they are varied expressions of one human consciousness; and each mind will know the real meaning of that groping phrase—"the fatherhood of God and brotherhood of Man!"

M D. Conway.

THE MYSORE PROVINCIAL CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE

The Twenty-Eighth Mysore Provincial Co-operative Conference was held on Sunday the 28th September 1941 at 8-30 A. M. at the Mysore Co-operators' Home, Chamaraj.. Road, Mysore. Rajasevaprasakta A. V. Ramanathan, B. A., (Minister for Law to the Government of Mysore) presided.

After a welcome speech by Lokasevasakta C. S. Kuppuswami Iyengar, President of the Institute, Rajasevaprasakta A. V. Ramanathan, B. A. Minister for Law to the Government of Mysore, delivered his Presidential Address and presented Shields to Societies.

KEROSENE AND PETROL

SIMLA.

A class of ration-dodgers are arising among motor-owners, particularly bus-owners in India, who, since the inception of petrol rationing, have adopted the practice of mixing petrol with kerosene for use as motor fuel, according to reports received by the Government of India. The lower duty on kerosene offers an inducement to these owners; and it is regarded as likely that if the practice spreads the Government may take action by equalising the duty on kerosene with that on petrol.

Expert reports made to the Government of India are understood to indicate that the use of the mixture is harmful to motor engines. The Government are also, therefore, believed to be considering the issue of a warning to motor-owners drawing their attention to the impossibility in present war conditions of replacing engines damaged in this way.

* * *

The talk of "ration-dodgers," as well as "the inducement of the lower duty on Kerosene" both seem to be absurd!

Kerosene duty has always been lower than that of petrol, and if it were worth mixing with petrol for the sake of savings, motorists would have done it long ago when petrol price went up from Re. 1—2—0.

Government does stand to lose by the rationing certainly, but that will not be due to dodging. When petrol is given up and gas is used, is that also dodging?

Kerosene is used by ryots for rural illumination. And if the Government raises its duty on a false premise, then it would be a great error! Ed.

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THE VICEROYALTY

No. 10. Downing Street announces, "His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve that H. E. The Most Hon'ble the Marquess of Linlithgow, Viceroy and Governor General of India should hold office for a further period until April 1943."

That, we suppose, is as it should be. But while Downing Street had no thoughts of changing the Viceroyalty, Fleet Street and its parasites were busy nominating one candidate after another for the prize post of the British Empire!

Our readers perhaps do not know that the Salary of the post is Rs. 2,50,800 a year. That of the President of the United States is only 75,000 dollars! Besides the Salary there are allowances for Renewal and maintenance of furniture, Military Secretary and Establishment, Surgeon and Establishment, Band and Body-guard, Tour Expenses, Sumptuary allowances, maintenance of Cars, and Travelling charges, totalling to a few lakhs of rupees!

For this post the Fleet Street Press and news-mongers were daily suggesting a fresh name that came to their mind. One day it was the Duke of Devonshire, another Sir Samuel Hoare, another my Lord Halifax, and another it was Lord Elgin! The last one was the biggest joke of all. Lord Elgin, we are told, is a Scottish land-owner "with a big head, big voice, big heart, and big push!" Well, for one Lord Elgin with such qualifications, we can provide in India thousands of men with big voice, &c, who could equal Lord Elgin, only they would need to be clothed by a Bond Street tailor and provided with a Scottish quilt!

We are also told that Lord Elgin's father and grand-father were Viceroys of India, and that therefore he has a claim for the Viceroyalty. We can understand that if a man's father and grandfather were tailors or barbers he could make a good tailor or barber having grown up in the atmosphere. But to be a Viceroy over a territory of 1¾ million square miles and 400 millions of people, requires more than a rustic proprietor of a Scottish wilderness, whatever his ancestry!

We are amazed at the decadence, the irresponsibility, and the foolishness af the Fleet Street men who could make such grotesque suggestions! And we are amazed that Reuter should have purveyed such irresponsible news to be received by the whole of the Indian Press and the Indian public with gaping mouths!

Anyone who had noted Premier Churchill's recent utterances would know that he is a man of "Status Quo." His declaration that he did not contemplate the creation of a Second Front by the invasion of Europe, is an instance to the point. His other declaration that the Atlantic Statement did not comprehend the old Dependencies of the British Empire, but only the recently ravaged parts of Europe is another instance to the point. Therefore there was no possibility that he would contemplate a change of Viceroyalty at this juncture.

For, after all, Lord Linlithgow must be a man after his own heart. He has carried on the Viceroyalty for nearly six years fairly smoothly. He has shut up Mr. Gandhi at Wardha and kept him in inaction. He has left Mr. Jinnah in Back Bay or Pedder Road or wherever he abides, to cry, howl, or roar as he likes. He has dispensed with the Provincial Assemblies and administrators, and is carrying on without much overt popular disaffection. He has got hold of some men from here and there to fill the expanded Council as also the Defence Council, and is acclaimed to have democratised the Government, whatever that may mean. He has collected 87 crores of rupees with unostentatious endeavour for the War Fund!

Is not all this a goodly show? Then no wonder that the Premier has extended his term of office. We are told that a parallel for such a long term of Viceroyalty is to be found a century back, in that of Lord

Dalhousie. Dalhousie is remembered for his Annexation policy regarding the Native States. Luckily Lord Linlithgow has no such high-handed proclivities. The utmost that he enforces is perhaps to impose a Dewan from outside as in the case of Cochin. For the rest the Rulers are allowed to go on, fox-trotting, or bear-hunting, or horse-racing, and no difficulties are made about recognising successions. So after all there can be no two opinions about the extension of the noble Marquess's term of office.

Editor.

BARODA STATE FINANCES

BARODA.

According to the budget proposals presented to the Baroda State Assembly, the anticipated receipts during the year are fixed at Rs. 255'03 lakhs and the expenditure is estimated at Rs. 249'65 lakhs leaving a small revenue surplus of Rs. 5'38 lakhs. The anticipated receipts are: Land Revenue Rs. 95,00,000 as fixed under the Land Revenue Equalisation Scheme; Excise, Rs. 26,20,000; Customs, Rs. 30,00,000, Registration, Rs. 12,50,000, Salt, Rs. 6,63,000; Income-tax, Rs. 8,00,000; Tributes from other States, Rs. 6,00,000; Education, Rs. 4,90,000; Interest on investments and loans Rs. 19,00,000; Railways, Rs. 21,00,000; Electric Undertakings Rs. 3,00,000.

The estimated expenditure is: Land Revenue Rs. 21,55,000; Agriculture, Rs. 7,50,000; Medical and Public Health, Rs. 12,13,000; Education, Rs. 40,00,000, Public Works, Rs. 26,01,000; Co-operation Rs. 80,000; Palace, 23,00,000; Central Administration, Rs. 13,62,000; Local Self-Government, Rs. 6,34,000; Law and Justice, Rs. 5,42,000; Police, Rs. 15,37,000; Army, Rs. 22,50,000; Assam, Rs. 10,40,000 and Pensions, Rs. 3,50,000. Compared to the revised estimates for 1940-41, the budget estimates for the current year, under receipts and expenditure, show increases of Rs. 3,42,000 and Rs. 4,12,000 respectively.

The explanatory memorandum points out that the increase in receipts is mainly under customs and to a certain extent under Excise, and interest due to new investments, and productive works like the Railways and the Port as a result of the anticipated appreciation of trade and commerce. On the expenditure side, increased provisions have been made under "education" 'medical' 'Public Health' and other Departments.

POST-WAR PLANNING

SIR M. VISVESVARAYA'S CALL

POONA.

Speaking at the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Club, Poona, on September 20, Sir M. Visvesvaraya, dwelt on the developments in the modern world during the past half a century, and examined how far they had contributed to the happiness of man. He said:

"Looking back over the events of the past half a century, one cannot but wonder at the amazing changes which science and technology have brought about. There is at present more freedom and less tyranny. Life for the ordinary citizen is wider, better and longer in many parts of this country. Also the public everywhere in India who live above the poverty-line are getting out of life more pleasures and a greater variety of them. But the country is still ill-equipped in the matter of social amenities. Travel conveniences for the ordinary people are in a primitive state; and this, notwithstanding revolutionary developments that have taken place in transport facilities, that is, in railways, steamships, automobiles, and aeroplanes, and in communications, such as telegraphs, telephones and the wireless. There is no attempt at fusion of taste and interests.

"We think chiefly of political issues. Social and economic questions receive scant attention. It is true that progress on the latter depends a great deal on political power, but it is unwise to ignore their national aspect merely because the attempt has to be made under difficulties. If we are wise, post-war conditions and problems should be visualised and post-war policies discussed and shaped, here and now, while the war is on as is done in every progressive belligerent country. Post-war organisation and reconstruction should form the special study of every thoughtful politician and economist.

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A Reader.

TRAVANCORE AND ITS PROBLEMS

SPEAKING BEFORE THE RESEARCH SECTION OF THE MADRAS UNIVERSITY

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said that in the State of Travancore they were confronted with some problems which had to be solved immediately. The State was exporting large quantities of commercial crops like coffee, tea, rubber and ginger. They ceased to grow paddy and took to commercial crops, with the result that they had to import paddy from Burma and other places. To-day they could not do that. Now the question for them was that unless their commodities were turned to the utmost possible use by science, the country must necessarily starve. Therefore, it was urgently necessary for them to work along scientific channels so that they might make something which might be marketable.

A large majority of the people of the State, the speaker pointed out, lived on a diet which was hopelessly deficient and most of them were non-vegetarians. The only way to deal with that matter was to improve the fisheries. In the State they bred prawns in the paddy fields. It was the habit of older prawns to go to the sea for mating and if that was allowed, production would diminish. The problem was how to keep these prawns in the fields themselves. In this matter scientific research had to come to the aid of the administrators and merchants, which involved questions of biology, migration and the possible study of the habits of prawns. Next there was the product known as the cod liver oil. They were importing the commodity from Scandinavia, but it was not possible at the present time. Attempts were now being made in Madras to produce shark liver oil, which medical men said was as good as cod liver oil. But there was no organised fishing by trawlers. The Japanese had established a trawling station near the Andamans and had been reaping a rich harvest. One of the main items of revenue for Japan was fishery. A careful study of oceanology was necessary to improve this business. The exploitation of their fisheries was not being made on a commercial basis, and research could play a great part in this matter.

Sir Ramaswami Aiyar further pointed out that the forest resources of the country had not been fully exploited. All kinds of timber were available. The tea plantations in the country were importing large quantities of plywood from Scandinavia, Finland and other foreign countries. But now those sources had gone dry and India had to depend on her own resources. It had been found that timber eminently suitable was available in India and gradually the plywood industry was being developed in the country. Another handicap in this matter was that they had not the machinery and they were forced now to make the machinery in India itself. It was only within the last nine months that the idea that it was possible to make machinery in India had dawned on them and the first attempts were in the making!

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FIFTEEN POINTS ON SAVING PETROL

In order to assist the motorists to reduce to the minimum the inconvenience of petrol rationing, Burmah-Shell present the following recommendations:

BAD DRIVING

The impulsive use of the accelerator and the brake pedal can be likened to driving along a switchback railway track. Neither of these should be used suddenly or fiercely except in an emergency. By using these controls incorrectly, the petrol consumption may be increased by as much as 5 m.p.g. in a 16 h.p. car.

FAST DRIVING

A car running at 60 m.p.h. requires a great deal more power to gain and retain its speed than one running at 40 m.p.h., it must, therefore, consume more fuel per mile. Actually, petrol consumption at 60 m.p.h. is about 35% more than at 40 m.p.h.

SPARK PLUGS

Since the spark plug must ignite the mixture, it is essential that this should be in good condition. Cracked or worn plugs or plugs whose points have not been set to the correct gap, will always increase consumption.

CONTACT BREAKER POINTS

In the same way, unless the contact breaker points are set correctly, and are kept in good condition, an increase in consumption will occur.

SPARK ADVANCE

It is a popular belief that the further the ignition can be advanced, the more power will be developed in the engine. This is only a part truth, because actually over-advance will reduce power and spoil the fuel consumption figures almost as much as under-advance. Moreover, over advance will give a rough engine. Many cars can have their performance and their consumption improved by bringing the spark back to its correct setting.

AIR FILTER

A dirty or blocked air filter will give rich mixtures simply because the air cannot pass through it into the engine. The cleaning of filters is a much neglected job, and is responsible for more uneconomic petrol consumption figures than any other cause.

CHOKE

Many drivers are prone to use choke to much too great an extent and certainly to a greater extent than is really necessary, even with a car which is somewhat slow in starting and in pick-up. Over use of the choke can very quickly reduce any other advantage secured to assist petrol consumption.

In these days most cars are sold with the carburettor set to give an over-rich mixture, this obviously increases consumption. On the other hand, it must be realised that to cut down the mixture strength to too weak a mixture will also give poor consumption. Obviously, sticking floats or needle-valves will also increase fuel consumption by wastage.

LUBRICATING OIL GRADES

The use of an oil in the engine heavier than that recommended by the manufacturer will tend to increase the petrol consumption, as the engine friction is higher with a heavier oil than with a lighter oil. It is important, however, to use a drag-free oil.

TYRES

Tyres should be kept inflated to the correct pressure. Under-inflated tyres cause additional and unnecessary road suction, causing wastage of power, and therefore of petrol.

PARKING IN THE SUN

Cars parked all day in the sun become extremely hot, and so tend to encourage the loss of petrol through evaporation from the petrol tank.

BRAKES

When the foot or hand brake is released, in some cases the brake-shoes do not come completely away from the bands, thus creating a certain amount of friction, and therefore, loss of power during running.

IDLING

To leave the engine idling for long periods while the car is not moving uses up very much more petrol than restarting the engine when required.

PETROL LEAKS

Check up for petrol leaks in the petrol system. In those areas which become heated from the engine, checking up the petrol leaks is sometimes difficult owing to the rapid evaporation, but it is well worth doing.

GENERAL ENGINE CONDITION

No car can perform with its maximum economy if the engine is not in perfect condition, therefore, from time to time the whole engine should be inspected, particularly to ascertain if compressions in each cylinder are good and approximately equal, and if the valves and spark plugs are in efficient working order.

Motorists will find that they will obtain greatly improved petrol consumption when cars have been correctly tuned. Re-tuning of engines in most cases necessitates only minor adjustments which can be speedily effected by competent garage and service station mechanics.

SOME NOTABLE BOOKS.

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CHRISTIAN LEADERS' APPEAL

BOMBAY.

That the Christian principle of service and not hunt for power should be the ideal of Indian Christians was the key-note of speeches delivered by prominent leaders of the community at a meeting held in Bombay recently.

Dr. H. C. Mukherjee, Organising Secretary of the All-India Council of Indian Christians, said that India was one and indivisible. Indians formed one nation. The Christian community, which constituted only two per cent of the country's population, could not hope to get on except through co-operation with the majority communities. The Indian Christians might not be able to enjoy political leadership, but moral leadership would be theirs if only they so willed.

Criticising Mr. Churchill's recent statement regarding India, he said: "Sooner or later, power must come into Indian hands. The time has gone when one country could tell another 'we will govern you thus and thus.'" In conclusion, he stated: "Let us act like Christians, whatever the consequences."

Mr. B. L. Rallia Ram of the Punjab said that Indian Christians were one with the other communities in wishing that India should have the fullest measure of self-government possible almost immediately. Declaring that the All-India organisation of Christians was not being run on the lines of the communal organisations in the country, he stated that it was there only to see that the Christian community was not deprived of any of its rights as a section of the Indian people.

Mr. C. C. Paul, Vice-President of the All-India Council of Indian Christians, said that their organisation existed not for the benefit of any community, but for the vindication of Christ's principles and teachings.

Mr. R. M. Chait Singh said that there was none among them who was not moved to his very depths after hearing Mr. Churchill's recent statement denying India justice. They now felt all the more one with the rest of the country.

Prof. A. Soares, who presided over the meeting, declared that "the message of the Indian Christians was one of hope and service. Their organisation was being run not for any communal bargaining, but only as a safeguard against injustice."

SWEATED STATESMEN

Who are Britain's biggest wage earners? Naturally Scotsmen are well in the running for first place. There is Sir Harry McGowan, head of Imperial Chemical Industries, who with several other directorships to his name is said to earn at least £30,000 a year. Incredible, it seems to-day that he started his working life as an office boy in Glasgow, drawing five shillings a week! Another Scot, the Archbishop of Canterbury, gets £15,000 a year, while Mr. Reginald McKenna, a former Chancellor of the Exchequer, draws a similar sum free of tax from the Midland Bank, of which he is chairman. Then, another ex-Chancellor, lucky enough to take his pick of the City's plums, is Sir Robert Horne; his director's fees from the Great Western Railway alone hover on the £25,000 a year mark.

No wonder some Cabinet Ministers, with their salaries confined between the limits of £5,000 and £2,000 per annum, considered themselves sweated. As Prime Minister Mr. Baldwin was paid nothing but as First Lord of the Treasury—a sinecure office—he got £5,000 a year, plus a house free of rates and taxes! This reward for Lords of the Treasury including the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has remained unaltered since established by Robert Walpole in 1721. Yet since those far-away days taxation has increased enormously and the purchasing power of money has dwindled.

Some Cabinet Ministers are now given £10,000.

"SADHVI"

DUSSARA SUPPLEMENT

This local Kannada weekly has brought out a Dussarah special, containing articles by prominent Mysore Public men like Messrs. Bhashyam Dasappa, Mariappa, M. N. Jois, T. S. Rajagopal Iengar, P. Sitaramiah, and B. Narayanasami, on various matters relating to the State's Public life. It is illustrated, and studded with advertisements and is **Priced only 6 pies.**

"EASY CURES OF AYURVEDA"

(114 PP. Price: 0-10-0)

A cheap, handy, neat, invaluable book, compiled in Kanada, by Mr. M. G. Singriengar, Engineer and Physician of extraordinary ability, whose versatility should command respect among Mysoreans.

The cures are the result of a life-time's experience of Mr. Singriengar himself, and two other eminent Ayurvedic medical men of the State. Mr. P. Venkatachala Pandit is a pioneer Pharmaceutist of Mysore who built up a valuable export trade by his manufactures. Pandit Chandrabhan Singh is an assiduous, capable, and successful physician who has effected many remarkable cures for over a generation.

These three have collated their wide experiences, ranging over 190 years—being their combined ages, and given the main diseases that Mysoreans are subject to, and their treatment by means of ingredients which are cheaply, easily, locally available. Therefore the book deserves to be owned by every householder in the State.

We recall how during the last generation the whole official machinery of India was utilised in order to make every official and non-official buy a copy of the book "Moore's Family Medicine," at a pretty stiff price. Moore's Family Medicine may have been a very good book for European Families in India and outside. But to Indian households it was an outlandish imposition!

The reason is obvious. The allopathic system is based on the constitution and diseases of the inhabitants of Europe, living on a diet, and living amidst a climate, entirely different from ours. And the ingredients of its medicines are things which are grown in and are peculiar to Europe or America.

To test, diagnose, and treat Indian diseases by a system based mainly on the European constitution, and to treat them by products grown in the forests of England or Bohemia or New Jersey, is irrational, uneconomical and absurd on the face of it. By the Governments' thoughtless patronage of the allopathic system these foreign drugs are imported into India in thousands of tons, and crores of hard-earned good money is sent out of the country every year.

It is unfortunate that we forget the fact that physically man is just the same as any other animal. The elephants, tigers, deer, bisons, and cattle of our forests *are* subject to diseases and wounds just like ourselves; but they don't import their cures from the jungles of Africa or South America! They get their cures within the area of the forests of which they are denizens, by dieting, licking, nature cure, and locally grown wild herbage. That is a fundamental lesson which we ought to learn, and the sooner we do so the better.

We get ill by wrong diet, by exposure, by over-strain, or by growing debility of our constitution, all of them being local causes. And God has so arranged that the materials of their cure can be found locally, in near-by forests, or hill-sides, or back-yards, all of them available at any grocer's.

Mr. Singriengar's book tells us which of these drugs could be used effectively for which ailments, often without even the need of a physician, and possibly at a hundredth of the cost of the alien drugs dispensed by Burroughs Welcome or Smith Stanistreet. We therefore think it invaluable for every house-hold.

It is stated that the District Forest Officer of Mysore, Mr. M. G. Venkata Rao, and the Range Officer, Mr. M. S. Krishniengar, are largely instrumental in the publication of the work. They deserve all thanks for their enlightened and patriotic initiative. And by a strange luck, the book has won the patronage of our Dowager Maharani, Her Highness Sri Prathapa-Kumari Lakshmivilas Sannidhana, whose rare portrait adds grace to the book!

That too is just as it should be, and shows that the book has come out under good auspices, and is likely to prove invaluable to the State's public. *Ed.*

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THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Opening the Dussarah Session of the Representative Assembly on the 1st inst., the Dewan President made a comprehensive survey of the State's affairs in a long speech, out of which we extract the following:—

Land revenue:—The total revenue demand for the year, including arrears of previous years, was Rs. 1,50,85,150. A sum of Rs. 1,31,59,657 (which includes amounts remitted) was collected during the year, as against Rs. 1,31,43,391 in 1939-40.

The Record of Rights scheme has now been introduced into 76 taluks and sub-taluks, including 4 taluks taken up during the year.

The Periapatna, Alur and Harihar sub-taluks were converted into taluks with effect from April last.

Debt Conciliation Boards:—Eight Debt Conciliation Boards are now working in the State with jurisdiction over 9 taluks. Government have accepted the view that Debt Conciliation Boards should be established where there are Land Mortgage Banks so that the work of the two classes of institutions may be co-ordinated.

Excise:—The revenue under Excise amounted to Rs. 56,80,510 during the year, as against Rs. 53,16,798 in 1939-40.

Forests:—The total demand of Forest Department was Rs. 26,42,224, out of which a sum of Rs. 22,65,180 was realised, as against the budgeted figure of Rs. 21,67,400. The value of timber and bamboos supplied to the Government of India exceeded Rs. 2 lakhs.

Stamps:—The revenue from the sale of stamps amounted to Rs. 19,93,000, showing an increase of Rs. 77,000.

Income-tax:—The total collection under Income-tax amounted to Rs. 32,61,620 during the year and under Super-tax, to Rs. 12,50,794, the figures for the previous year being, respectively, Rs. 20,83,683 and Rs. 9,55,789.

Medical relief:—There is a large demand for increase of facilities for medical aid in rural parts. It is not possible to meet this demand to any substantial extent by establishing new dispensaries of an expensive type. The question of encouraging Pandits and Hakims, who have received an approved course of training in Oriental medicine, is being examined.

Judicial:—Civil institutions declined by 828, or 3·1 per cent, as compared with the previous year, and on the criminal side, there was a decrease of 3,259, or 10 per cent in the number of cases, and 6,181, or 12·8 per cent in the number of persons involved. There was a fall from 27,716 to 24,198, or 12·6 per cent in the number of persons convicted during the year, as compared with 1939-40.

Police:—The sanctioned strength of the permanent Police force was 1,039 officers and 5,726 men, and the total cost of the Police force under all heads was Rs. 22,33,800.

Fisheries:—A Fisheries Section has now been established as part of the Department of Agriculture for exploiting the fishery resources of the State with a view to increasing the food supply in the country. A sum of Rs. 13,500 has been sanctioned for equipment and for the construction of fish ponds at Thippagondanahalli and Marconahalli.

Education:—Orders have already been issued sanctioning the opening of 250 new schools in the current year. In the course of the next four years it is proposed to open a thousand new primary schools so that every important village in the State with a population of 500 in the Maidan taluks and of 300 in the Malnad will have a school of its own.

Public Works:—An aerodrome at Mysore is under formation at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,31,000.

Electrical Department:—The gross revenue of the Electrical Department increased by 11·35 per cent and the power generated by 6·63 per cent. The gross receipts of the Department were Rs. 85·33 lakhs, as against Rs. 76·36 lakhs in 1939-40, while the net revenue was Rs. 55·95 lakhs, or an increase of about Rs. 7 lakhs over the figure for the previous year.

Railways:—The gross earnings of the Mysore State Railway, including the lines worked by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, amounted to Rs. 94·58 lakhs in 1940-41, showing an increase of Rs. 7·45 lakhs over the figure for the previous year. The total working expenses during the year amounted to Rs. 62·52 lakhs.

Village Panchayets:—There were 12,023 Panchayets in the State at the end of the year.

Census:—The population of the State, including the Civil and Military Station, which stood at 65·57 lakhs in 1931, has increased to 73·29 lakhs in 1941, showing an increase of 12 per cent during the last decade, as compared with 9·7 per cent during the previous decade.

The Hindu, the Muslim and the Christian communities form 91·2, 6·6 and 1·5 per cent of the total population, as compared with 92·2, 6·1 and 1·3 per cent, respectively, in 1931.

In conclusion:—"The inauguration of the new constitution has not failed to quicken the tempo of reforming zeal on the part of our officers, no less than of some of our public men interested in nation-building activities. They have found a common meeting ground in various committees and are striving together to find ways and means for improving village industries, labour conditions and so on. The field for such beneficial mutual co-operation is, indeed, vast and I have every hope that, as we go along, we shall cover an ever increasing area. In whatever we do, and much of it must be done together, let our objects be worth while and our methods practical."

The Rationalist.

Monday 6-10-1941.

THE EXHIBITION

A lot of lights, a lot of noise, a lot of crowds, a lot of jostling, and a lot of rains, wretched rains, that is the Mysore Dussarah Exhibition! "That may be in the evenings; what about the mornings?", some one will ask. In the mornings, no lights except that of God, few crowds, but a lot of big-wigs having their morning constitutional, incidentally scanning the stalls superciliously while passing, and clustering in groups to talk shop or discuss the War! Have we answered? Then let us proceed.

In the early years of the Exhibition, we remember, it used to be a congregation of the heavy industries, and of things unusual, remarkable, or wonderful. But now we have a representative gathering of Sayaji Rao Road, Chickpet, Commercial street, and China Bazaar!

The most conspicuous exhibits are glass bangles, tinsel lolacs, imitation gold, saris, soaps, and biscuits. A 100 or 150 years ago Europe used to send similar cheap and meretricious things to Africa and America, and India too, to palm off on the natives and get territories in exchange!

There are of course the permanent exhibits of the Government Departments, and Government-owned Factories, of the Government-protected Companies, and a few non-Government Factories.

And several side-lines, borrowed from Carnival and pantomime, a round-about, a few toy motor-cars and a live-elephant for the amusement of children, a radio to fill the air with music, a loud-speaker to announce missing children, and in the midst of all this a Musical Programme!

A musical programme in the heart of an exhibition, with all its blare, would seem rather incongruous, and utterly out of place; especially when the musicians are local people whom one could often hear amidst quieter surroundings, some of them, too, with one foot in the grave, whose music is only gutteral incoherence; and if outsiders supposed to be masters, they too have been heard often on the radio or in person, their programme consisting, one-third, of the cater-wauling of the violin, one-third the ear-splitting of the drummer, and one-third a long-drawn out wail by the musician! The Dussarah exhibition has been deemed a suitable back-ground for this kind of music, and that not free, but with a substantial charge! However, though it may be incongruous and unsuccessful, it means another Sub-Committee, with some more members whose self-importance and vanity can thus be satisfied!

We have heard complaints that the stall rents are exorbitant, and have been considerably increased in recent years. They seem to range from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 for a 11×11 feet space for a fortnight! There is, we believe, a Rent Restriction Act in force in Bombay, but the Mysore Exhibition is a law unto itself. And what happens is that stall-holders, having paid such high rents, double the prices of their tinsel wares like bangles and lolacs, and poor Mysoreans have to pay for them, thanks to the Exhibition authorities!

They will no doubt retort that their stall-rents are infinitely cheap compared with the advertisement rates in their Hand-book, which is Rs. 100 for a space of just 9 inches by 6¾ inches!

We are of course rendered speechless by the retort! But we will tell them this.

We do not know whether they consider the exhibition as a He or a She. The Germans called their country Fatherland. The English and Indians call theirs Motherland. Considering the bangles and lolacs, we might designate the Exhibition as a She! Our readers are aware from Society novels that a class of women in European society are pointed out as "Gold-diggers." We don't want our Lady of the Exhibition to become more and more a "gold-digger," as she grows older! After all it will be the poor Mysoreans who will ultimately have to pay, and not outsiders.

At the entrance to the Exhibition, to the right a Kannada motto catches the eye. We know that not one visitor in a hundred can make out what the middle word "ಪ್ರಥಮ" means. It requires a stipendiary, or honorary, or extraordinary Professor of Kannada to stand by and explain it. The general impression is that the middle letter of the word ought to be long, and not short. This kind of composition can only make Kannada ludicrous in the eyes of the public!

We noticed a remark somewhere that the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee is taking a personal interest in the Exhibition. We are astonished at the remark. When an ordinary member of a Committee is suddenly raised to its Chairmanship, it is obvious that he ought to do a great deal more than take a personal interest in its affairs. And when a non-official public man is, by the grace of God, raised to a Ministership, with high dignity, and a sumptuous salary out of public funds, we hold, and the public hold, that all his honesty, all his capacity, all his goodness, all his discretion, and all his public spirit should burst forth in one constant, tireless endeavour in the discharge of his public duties! He ought, in fact, to put himself all out like an "all-in" wrestler, and, if necessary, even sweat in fulfilling his official obligations! Let it not be supposed that we wish to disparage anybody. Hardly that. We are only pointing out a fundamental principle of public life, whether in the old Grecian and Roman times of Socrates and Cato the Censor, or in the future centuries which are beyond our conception and imagination, but which nevertheless will require from their high-placed public men, great probity, great ability, and self-less endeavour, if public life should prosper, and not corrode and disintegrate!

Editor.

TITLES

H. H. The Maharaja has been pleased to confer the following titles:—

Messrs.	
1. Justice T. Singaravelu Mudaliar,	*Rajadharma Prasaktha*
2. T. G. Rama Iyer and	
3. N. Sharabhoja,	*Rajaseva Prasaktha.*
4. N. V. Bapat,	
5. P. Subbarama Chetty,	
6. H. Venkataramiah and	
7. A. R. Wadia,	*Rajasevasaktha.*
8. V. R. Chickananjappa Setty,	*Lokasevaniratha.*
9. L. Vema Reddy,	*Lokasevasaktha.*
10. Nawab Gulam Ahmad Kalami,	*Kwyd-ul-Mulk.*
11. T. Srinivasaraghava-charya,	*Gurusevasaktha.*
12. Siddhanti Thammayya Sastry,	*Jyothisharatna.*
13. Shivaramiah,	*Vainika Praveena.*
14. K. Rama Rao and	
15. C. Venkata Rao and	*Sangeetharatna.*
16. Gubbi Veeranna,	*Natakaratna.*

Our congratulations to the lucky official and non-official recepients, among whom the *Rationalist* is glad to recognise many friendly names!

Ed.

"What I most admire in your paper is the magic touch of your keen-pointed pen at the end of the excerpts, discreetly selected and reproduced in your columns. It makes or mars all what goes before. With the slight touch of your fine pencil you can transform the entire painting set before you. I wish that your paper with expanded wings flew all over the world and made it rationalistic!"

A Reader.

MEDICINE IN OLDEN DAYS

MADRAS.

Dr. Radha Kumud Mukerji of Lucknow University addressing the Ayurvedic Teachers' Training Centre at Avadi recently observed that in old India admission to medical study depended upon specific physical and moral qualifications. Specialisation was not permitted except on the basis of knowledge of the whole of medical science. Knowledge of theory and texts had to be combined with that of their practical application. The quality of medicines in those days was secured by the cultivation of medicinal plants, herbs, roots and fruits in special State botanical gardens The physician was to treat free the poor, orphans, guests, saints and teachers

Some of the Sanskrit and Pali texts, Dr Mukherjee said, contained many details of various diseases and their remedies. Panini, (about 750 BC), in his grammar, referred to the three humours, "Vata," "Pitta" and "Sleshma" and diseases like dysentery, jaundice, diabetes (*asraya*), consumption (*samvara*) or heart-disease. Kautilya (fourth century B. C.) mentioned State control of the practice of medicine. A physician had to report cases of dangerous diseases and was punished for error of judgment. The Buddhist canonical texts gave details of medicines derived from herbs, roots and oils and also of dietary. They also spoke of lancet operations, of compresses and bandages Jivaka, the physician to the Emperor Bimbisara, had calls from different provinces, from Benares, Sravaste or Ujjain, and performed difficult surgical operations on the skull and brain, on the abdomen, and for setting right twisted intestines. He was also an accomplished physician who treated Buddha and invented new medicines. Milinda-Panho of about the first century B C. gave details of surgical training in holding a lancet in cutting, marking or piercing with it, in extricating darts, in cleansing wounds and in the application of ointments There were also references to burning wounds with caustic, and cauterising them, and to the use of alkaline wash.

The medical course at Taxilla, Dr. Mukherjee added, was for seven years, and licence to practise was not given except on the basis of a rigorous practical examination including first-hand study of the properties of medicinal plants of the neighbourhood. Some of the South Indian inscriptions also gave details of hospitals attached to the schools and colleges.

Concluding, Dr Mukherjee said that the study of medicine was made compulsory for all students as part of general education. It was wholly compulsory even for religious students who chose to be monks. It was felt that education would not be complete except by an acquisition of that knowledge by which the greatest good to the greatest number could be rendered by the educated And if social service was to be the aim of education, it could not be disputed that the ancient Indian curriculum of studies was most effective for its fulfilment

• • •

Well, comment is unnecessary! Ed.

ENGLISHMEN IN INDIA

AN AMERICAN VIEW

To all India's pleas for independence, Britain replies in the famous inscription at Delhi "Liberty will not descend to a people a people must raise themselves to liberty It is a blessing and it must be earned before it can be enjoyed," writes the American journal *Life*, discussing the Indian problem

The British have not done much to push India's capacity for liberty, it adds

The Hindu leaders, who pretend to speak for the masses, are nearly all British educated lawyers and carry themselves like Maharajas The mob speaks at their bidding, but the masses of India never speak. They can barely stagger under the burden of ten religions, 3,000,000 gods, incompetent leaders, and grinding poverty Yet the Hindus are the most purely intellectual people on earth, the greatest dreamers and the nearest to the ideals of Jesus Christ!

BEST SERVED PEOPLE

To Westerners, just as China is somehow a world of immense romance, India suggests something unclean, women moulding cow manure in fuel cakes. Yet burning manure is a sensible way of getting rid of it.

More than 90% of India's people are illiterate The average Indian lives in dirt, uses a plough that has not been improved in 3,000 years, and dies at the average age of 23

Pointing out the luxurious life led by Britishers in India, it adds

The British in India are undoubtedly the best-served people in the world They are all dressed and undressed by servants Their tooth brush is handed to them with paste on it They have the best tailors in the world. Everything is incredibly cheap After India they are forever spoiled for living anywhere else!

The audible voice of India is unquestionably Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhi lives now in a village called Sevagram, his *ashram* or village retreat, complete with telephone line. His public appearances are mysterious, heavily-guarded and godlike.

He lives on goat's milk, fruit, vegatables, bread, and makes a point of doing a little spinning every-day. Sevagram is spotless.

• • •

A little spinning, forsooth! And this to the arch-spinner of India! Ed.

KURUKSHETRA

"Wars, present and ancient, what a contrast! There is much for comparison, too.

Kouravas and Pandavas were cousins, children of brothers—Dhritarashtra strong and Pandu weak. Dhritarashtra's wife, Gandhari, belonged to a collateral Aryan race not of India proper but of Gandhara (Kandahar), Pandu's wife, Kunti, was the daughter of a Prince of India proper. Dhritarashtra's was an international marriage, which was in vogue even in those days it was perhaps an experiment.

The Mahabharata war was a war for racial purification, though the parties of the war were not fully conscious of it, Nature works within human beings often in inscrutable ways and in spite of them. There was an admixture of racial blood in the Kouravas, the Pandavas were of pure Indian blood. Animosities in the circumstances were natural, such behaviour is not absent even in the plant world. Foreign matter which cannot be assimilated by any effort should be purged out.

The Great Sri Krishna of Devine insight born a true and pure Indian, of the pure Indian soil, saw this. He as well as the great sages and sage-warriors of India tried their utmost to bring about a reconciliation between the cousins. They did so on principles of Dharma, and in particular 'live and let live' principle. But the foreign elements in the constitution of the Kouravas continually and persistently revolted against any reconciliation. They wanted *to live, not to let live.* That was intolerable to any human nature—even the most righteous. Even so, the Pandavas were inclined to make any sacrifices at the cost even of self effacement. Sri Krishna, the Divine Patriot, saw the danger. He inculcated Dharma in all its fineness, in all its aspects, and prepared the Pandavas for the great purge—the great war of Kurukshetra.

It was a great and terrible war, but the way that battle was fought was not like those now going on. The armies on both sides assembled in a large field far from towns and villages. The civil population was undisturbed except perhaps as spectator at a safe distance. (Compare our football, cricket and other matches even the bloody pastimes of ancient Rome) What a contrast do we see in the present wars!

It was a war between Right and Wrong—Wrong more strongly equipped than the Right. The confidence in the righteousness of their cause gave the fighters for the Right success. Right won Might.

The weapons of both the parties were equally tempered with the unshaken conviction of the righteousness of the cause. That temperament gave the Pandavas victory in spite of the great odds,

Elation over victory is a vice, wickedness. The Pandavas, though victorious, became despondent over the loss even of the wickedly-disposed enemy-cousins and the great warriors on the enemy side some of them sages. Even the Great Sri Krishna did not want to live longer in His earthly sheath after the event. The Pandavas followed Him.

The good is no good in the absence of evil, the two are comparative. Into the void left by the disappearance of evil, a portion of the good is likely to enter and gradually develop into a full fledged evil. the laws of nature on this Karma-bhoomi (region of action and inter action) play their own game until (when?) this region is absorbed or is transformed into regions beatific where unmixed Universal Laws rule!

At every stage in the above narration the readers, surely, can draw their own parallels, inferences and conclusions in relation to our present world!"

D. L. A.

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INDIA A SINGLE ENTITY

MR JAYAKAR'S CALL

MADRAS

Addressing a Madras gathering last week, the Rt., Hon'ble M R Jayakar emphasised that the design of Nature as well as of Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim rulers and British administrators had always been to keep India as a single entity. Taking a bird s eye view of India, he said, they would find that Nature always intended India to be a self contained unit The protection afforded by the seas on three sides, and in the north by the impenetrable mountain barrier—that itself showed that Nature always meant India to be one integral unit, indivisible in its integrity It was the dream of the ancient Hindu rulers to fashion India into one unit The one dream of the great Buddhist emperors, who followed of Chandragupta and Asoka and others, was to treat India as one entity They very nearly succeeded in this objective Then came the Moghuls Although it was the fashion at present to represent the Moghuls as the harbingers of Indian discord and disunity, they (the Moghuls) like the British really built up the unity of India There were a few religious zealots like Aurangazeb who persecured non-Muslim people and their religion b.t t was a false reading of history to say that the Mogul Period represented essentially an ant es between Hindu and Muslim culture. It was an entirely wrong belief It was a false reading of history to say that the Moghul reign stood for the predominance of any particular people It was in that period that arts like music thrived in India Music was essentially a Hindu science but it was the Moghuls who took up its improvement Hindus and Muslims laboured in the common effort to perfect the science and theory of Indian Music All that story of the Hindu and Muslim being opposed to each other, and of their antagonism having reached its climax in the days of the Moghul emperors, was a travesty of truth, if not a libel upon those emperors. It was in the days of Akbar and Shah Jahan that Hindu and Muslim composers sought together to compose poems which created the beautiful frenzy which music only could give The Moghuls were not a sectarian people The leading outpost of the Moghul rule, beyond Kabul, was held by a Hindu Commander in Chief They were told that beyond the frontier there were tribes who hated the very sight of the Hindus This was absolutely untrue He had no doubt that when the true story of India came to be written and the contribution of the Hindu and Moghul emperors to the cultural unity of India came to be determined, they would read a different history from the one they now had That history had yet to be written they were too near the times ,and too full of antagonisms and controversies to record it here and now But when it was recorded, it would be found that his version of the Moghul rule and of its contribution to the unity of India was the true version The Moghuls were succeeded by the Mahrattas, but their sway was too short lived Then came the British It was a false theory with which they were asked to fill their minds that the British took over from the Moghuls The Mahrattas in fact took over from the Moghuls and the British took over from the Mahrattas That was true history The British rule began with great administrators It was a good fortune for the British that the early administrators were men fired with the one vision of developing the whole of India as one unit and of training it in European methods so that the aspiration would grow in the mind of the people, of having in this country the same form of democratic government as England had!

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* * * * * *

The above interesting information has been elicited by a questioner in the Representative Assembly now in session.

We note that Sir P. N. Krishna Murthy drew the least, only Rs. 3,000 for over 5 years. And he had also to entertain Lord Curzon.

Sir Kantharaj Urs enjoyed the maximum.

Sir Mirza drew the maximum longest of any, 13 years and 1 month, while Sir Sheshadrier drew it only for less than 12. His pension equals Sir Sheshadrier's, though it is much less than what it was originally rumoured to be!

The Salary of the Dewan in 1832 was Rs. 1000! Ed.

"THE AGE OF THE EARTH"

DR. K. S. KRISHNA'S ADDRESS

PUDUKOTTAH.

"The Age of the Earth" was the subject of an interesting lecture delivered last by Dr. K. S. Krishnan of the Calcutta University in the Town Library Hall, Pudukottah.

The lecturer gave an account of the early speculations of Lord Kelvin who, from the rate of cooling of the earth, estimated its age between 20 and 40 millions of years. This period, however, was found by geologists to be far too short a span of time to compress the various geological processes that must have happened since the beginnings of the earth. Dr. Krishnan then discussed the radio-active elements in detail and observed that some of the oldest rocks on earth were 1,500 million years old and the earth must be slightly older. He also discussed the evidence from the radio shafts of the spiral nebulae which pointed to an epoch nearly 2,000 million years ago when all the nebulae should have formed a compact cluster, and for some reason they started expanding. The earth obviously could not be older than this epoch.

* * * *

Dr. Krishnan seems to be anxious to make the figures of the Earth's age compete with the figures of Mr. Roosewelt's Supplemental Budgets! If the Earth is not over 2,000 million years old by his reasoning, we for one are not anxious to make the old Lady older! Notwithstanding Hitlers and earth-quakes, nobody can prophecy how many thousand million years more she will continue to exist. So let us take her as she is and give her due honour, instead of trying to lift her veil and counting her wrinkles! Ed.

THE PUNJAB PREMIER'S LATEST

LAHORE

"If the British have any sense of statesmanship left in them, they should at once make the declaration I have suggested,—that India shall have the status of free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth within a reasonable time after the war,—in the absence of which India should present a united front" This alternative was suggested by Sir Sikander Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, in an interview on his arrival from Simla.

Describing Mr Churchill's statement as "the biggest rebuff India has over received," Sir Sikander Hyat Khan considered that this was the most opportune time for all parties in the country to unite, if the British were not prepared to make an unambiguous declaration which should clear the confusion created in the Indian mind Mr. Amery's reply to American questioners, added the Premier, had made confusion worse confounded.

If within two or three weeks the suggested declaration was not forth coming, concluded the Premier, he would have no hesitation in making an appeal to Indian political parties to present a united front

* * *

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, seems to have taken twin shapes and become the Premiers of Bengal and Punjab! They are never of one mind, but are always either fighting the devil or sweeping back the deep sea! Big talk rarely leads them to big action. We are reminded of the lions in the cages of Chatre's Circus They growl, show their teeth, lift their paws, and lash their tails, and make the audience fear that the tamer is done for, but when they meet his steady eye, and see the raised whip-hand, they, snarlingly, no doubt, but obediently go through the paces! We can imagine Mr. Tamer Jinnah's sardonic smile when he read the above lofty statement of Sir Sikander!

We could ourselves tell him that statesmanship or no statesmanship, Britain will not make the unambiguous declaration that he requires, and that his own appeal to Indian parties for a united front will fall on deaf ears! Therefore he would do well to enjoy his Premiership with a little less tall talk!

Ed.

PRINCES AND THE PEOPLE

BOMBAY.

"I hold strong and decided views on the relationship between the Princes and the people I am convinced that, in the new world order, which is bound to follow the insensate butchery dignified by the name of war, the Princes will have place only if they become true servants of the people, deriving their power not from the sword but from the love and consent of the people," says Mahatma Gandhi, in a message to the *States' People*.

"Such being my fixed view," he continues, "I advise the people of the States to cultivate patience, and prepare themselves for the responsibilities that will devolve on them, willy nilly, by assiduously doing mute constructive work."

"ACUTE TYRANNY SHOULD BE RESISTED"

"This does not mean," Gandhiji adds, "submission to active and acute tyranny, of which I have so many accounts coming to me. This, the victims must resist in the best manner they can. The only best manner I know is the way of non-violence, otherwise called conscious and deliberate self-suffering. But, cases of individual torture and degradation have come under my notice. If they are true and if the tortured persons do not know the way of non-violence, they will resist the tortures with all the violence they can summon from within, and die in the attempt to resist the torture and the degradation. That violent resistance will almost count as non-violence, even as the resistance of a mouse to a ferocious cat will count I have in mind an unarmed man under torture by an armed company of torturers. No man, however weak in body, if he has the will to resist and the capacity to die bravely, need feel helpless against odds, however heavy!

PRINCES MUST READ THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

"I would like the Princes to accept," Gandhiji concludes, "my claim to be their true friend. As such, I would like to tell them that the way to read the signs of the times is to realise the utter helplessness of the sword. The Biblical saying is going to prove true sooner than we had expected; 'For all they that take the sword shall perish by the sword!'"

The Rationalist.
Monday 13-10-1941.

THE ASSEMBLY AND BANGALORE

In the course of his Address to the Assembly the Dewan states, "you have asked that one session at least of this body should be held in Bangalore, and I am glad to be able to tell you that arrangements are being made in respect of the next session accordingly."

We are afraid that we have no reason to share in the gladness. The idea seems to us to be ill-conceived, and if given effect to, to be ill-advised.

We do not remember that the Assembly formally, seriously considered the proposal, and passed a resolution to that effect. Even if so the proposal should strike any thoughtful person as extraordinary, and Government's readiness to comply with it as more than extraordinary!

We can only conceive of two reasons for the proposal: one a boyish desire for change in some of the less thoughtful members of the Assembly; the other, an impish desire to mulct the official class of the T. A. due to them at Mysore. Both reasons appear to us childish.

Serious-minded persons in the state are wondering for some time past why the Government of the State should be carried on from Bangalore, while the Ruler of the State is in Mysore, and the Capital of the State is in Mysore!

In U. S. A. both the President and Cordell Hull and the rest of them are in Washington, the Capital, not the President at Washington and the Government in New York. In Great Britain both the King and the Cabinet are in London, the Capital. So are the Viceroy of India and his Government at Delhi. So in the British Indian Presidencies, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Karachi, Lahore and others. So again in every other Indian State, Kashmir, Baroda, Hyderabad, Cochin, Travancore, and all the rest of them. In our State alone we see the queer sight of the Ruler's Governament being located in a place which is not the Ruler's Capital!

How it arose may perhaps be known to some of our readers. During the reign of H. H. Mummadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar, the State was being Governed from Mysore. It was when he was divested of the Government in 1831 and a European Commission was placed in charge, that the Government was shifted to Bangalore so as to be aloof from the dispossessed Ruler. That continued throughout the period of the Commission, till 1881.

After the Rendition it was open for H. H. Chamaraja Wadiyar to order the Government to be shifted to Mysore. But he was young, and both Rangachar and Seshadri Iyer no doubt felt the existing arrangement comfortable and convenient. It gave them a freer hand, and saved them from the irksomeness of the Ruler's watchful eye and personal interference!

The same applied to the Regency days, and the early years of the late Ruler. By that time Bangalore, like a Khadim tenant, had obtained a traditional and prescriptive right as the seat of Government, and nobody conceived of a change.

But why should this relic of the Commission days continue any longer? Let us recall that the shifting of the Government to Bangalore by the British Commission was in order to be aloof from the Ruler, and prevent his interference in it. That reason hardly applies now. His Highness's Government will be all the better if it is directly under His Highness's eye. No reason can be adduced to the contrary. It will change the official outlook, improve the administration remarkably, and will prove of considerable benefit to the Public.

The matter of course rests with the Ruler, and if he makes up his mind, no difficulties can stand in the way.

Had it not been for the present anomalous position, the question of holding a session of the Assembly at Bangalore would not have arisen. The British Houses of Parliament meet always in the age-old Hall of Westminster however shattered by bombs, and not in Manchester or Birmingham! So do the Popular Assemblies of every other nation!

Next to the Ruler the Representative Assembly is the greatest constitutional institution of the State. It ought to be housed properly and permanently, the House growing venerable with age, getting more and more steeped in dignity and sanctity, and generating an atmosphere that will inspire wisdom, patriotism and vision, in its official and non-official components!

The present suggestion is that one session should be held in Bangalore. Next the argument may be stretched, and the Assembly asked to meet in each District Head-quarter in turn, so that they too may have a taste of it! Do the members, do the Government want to reduce the sacred political institution to the level of a "touring talkie," or "itinerant dispensary"?

If the idea is given effect to it will be that and no more! And it will ultimately end in becoming a mobocracy, without a Home, without a tradition, and without sanctity!

We hope it is not too late to reconsider the proposal. We trust that, in the interests of the institution, the members will reconsider, and ask Government to give up the idea of proceeding with it.

Of course this does not mean that we have a grouse against Bangalore. We consider Bangalore a City of which the State should be proud! But that can be without the Representative Assembly being made to stretch one leg there! *Editor.*

SRI KRISHNARAJENDRA HOSPITAL, MYSORE

An Advocate and Member of the Representative Assembly states that he went to the above Hospital three days ago and saw Dr. Ramakrishna Rao, who has been posted in place of Dr. Venkatasubba Rao, and complained to him of stomach ache. He felt it every morning between 4 and 5 A.M. only, and the pain would not be so acute if he got up then. The Doctor is said to have replied, "You have yourself found out the remedy. Get up every day at 4 in the morning, as you do not feel it if you get up!" The patient asked "Is that a remedy, Doctor? Do you not see it is a malady for which a remedy is necessary?" The Doctor replied "It is no malady." The patient asked whether it was not something not normal?" The Doctor admitted so, but said again that getting up at the time when the pain comes was the remedy! The patient had to come away with that.

He asks us, "If this is the way Doctors speak to clients and suggest remedies, I do not know whether the purpose in spending so much on the Medical Department is really served! Will the Department look to it?"

* * *

Yes, the Medical Officer, the Department, and the Minister concerned should look to it.

The Krishnarajendra Hospital has an imposing building, with shining brass, and glazed tiles, to impress visitors!

Three things that its Doctors ought to know are to diagnose, to cure, and to be courteous. Are they not capable of them? Do the many letters after their names mean nothing? Or is it due to lack of discipline and lack of proper control over their work? Possibly. But may we point out to these people who are getting a very decent living out of Allopathy, that by such conduct they are bringing Allopathy into contempt? The public cannot tolerate it for long. Ed.

KURUKSHETRA

In the above article in our last issue the paragraph commencing with, "The Weapons," should read:—

"The weapons of both the parties were equally tempered, but the temper of the one that won was tempered with the unshaken conviction of the righteousness of the cause." *Ed.*

WE LIVE BY TIN

EARTH'S MOST IMPORTANT METAL

The financiers who control the Tin Industry have been the subject of much recent speculation. The following article explains the astounding importance of tin in the modern world. If this common metal were to disappear, it would cause "a chaotic upheaval in the scheme of living."

Without tin modern civilization as we know it would cease to exist!

Funny, isn't it? Repeat that rather ponderous statement in company and you will probably be laughed at.

"Tin," some scornful sceptic will tell you with a sniff; "why, that's the stuff the Ancient Romans came to Britain for!"

Of course it is; and the Modern Romans still come to Britain for it, as well as most other countries, considering that eighty-five per cent of the world's total production of this valuable metal is controlled by Britain. Actually, although we seldom think of it, we are living in the Age of Tin. If you don't believe it, picture this typical domestic scene.

The place is any modern home; the time is This Year of Applied Tin; and the curtain rises on a bedroom-set just as the chief characters are finishing their dressing. (But for the Censor we might have a bed scene, because the springs of the bed are coated with tin to prevent rust; and the silk pyjamas, like the silk stockings now being straightened by the leading actress, Mrs. 1941, contain tin salts to hold the loose silk fibres together.)

STORY OLDER THAN HISTORY

Still, we can imagine the preliminary scenes. Take the toilet: the bath is coated with oxydized tin, the toothpaste has come out of a tin tube, the husband has shaved with a razor which is keen-edged thanks to tin, and the same applies to the scissors the wife has just put back into her manicure-set.

From that moment, until the day is done, the drama of tin unfolds itself. It is dished up in the morning paper, because type means tin, as well as in the kitchen, where it is found in cooking utensils, in the tin foil wrapping countless forms of food—not forgetting the canned fruit or fish or vegetables which account for 120,000,000 tin-cans every year in Britain alone, and 3,000,000 tons of tinplate for the world's cooks. The list is almost endless—for we find tin in the telephone, wireless, motor-car, type-writer, the electric-light system. As an alloy it rules aviation, transport, toyland, fireworks, marine engineering. It ornaments the millionaire's palace and brings comfort to the humblest home. And research is extending its uses still farther.

Some years ago the tin producers co-operated in forming the International Tin Research and development Council. That body, with the aid of skilled scientists, is finding more and more applications for the metal. Laboratories are now exclusively engaged in finding out fresh wonders of tin in Great Britain, America, France, Germany, and Holland. Already it has been proved that tin is steadily increasing the standard of living for the whole world!

Probably no other metal has had as big a share in the building of the modern world as tin. Its story is older than history; bronze, which is an alloy of tin and copper, has been unearthed from the ruins of ancient Nineveh. Yet the metal is as modern as 1936, because science is always carrying it farther and farther ahead.

The methods of winning it from the earth are as paradoxical. Primitive tools and instruments are still used by the Chinese tin-miners in Malay, while in the larger fields, particularly in the chief tin-land, Bolivia, the very latest appliances are in operation. Until recently a dredge could dig to a depth of thirty or forty feet and turn over some 100,000 cubic yards of ground in a month. To-day engineers have evolved a giant electric dredger which will dig down to over 100 feet and excavate 300,000 yards in a month.

To carry the paradox still farther: the metal is mined from mountain sides and taken from the depths of the earth. In Bolivia they obtain it at a height of 12,000 feet—and in Cornwall they go down 1,000 feet for it.

SEARCH FOR NEW SUPPLIES

America, which consumes over fifty per cent of the world's output, has no native tin deposits. Whimsically, Nature has endowed that country with almost every mineral you can think of—and denied it the most important of the lot! United States engineers have spent thousands of pounds in searching for it, but the Malay States, Dutch East Indies, and Bolivia continue to supply the market. At Washington, the Government is perturbed about the position, and the search for a substitute has begun, lest the outside supply should fail for some reason or other.

Happily, at the moment, there is not the slightest fear of the tin supply petering out. But it is remarkable that during the last twenty years, despite world-wide exploration and boring, not one new source has been discovered. And as the uses multiply, the consumption mounts up feverishly.

If the day ever comes when the panic cry of "No more tin!" goes up from the world's cities, there will be such a chaotic upheaval in the scheme of living that human existense will not be worth—well, as one expert put it, "it won't be worth an old tin can!"

DANCES IN EAST AND WEST

Inaugurating an Institute of Dancing at Trevandrum recently Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer contrasted European and Indian dances: "There are among us friends who are acquainted with the European systems of dancing which also started as ours did, as religious manifestations amongst the Greeks, as, for instance, in the Dionysian dance, and among the Romans, the Druids and the other nations in Europe, but the dances of the West soon developed very largely on secular lines. The question may be asked as to what is the main difference between the two systems. I am answering that question to the best of my lights and shall, no doubt, evoke criticism. My task is, however, to draw pointed attention to one aspect of the matter, namely, that in the development of this art of dance the art of Kathakali, the art of Mr. Gopinath's troupe, great care has to be taken to see that each art is maintained pure and unalloyed by the influence of kindred but extraneous cultures. The secret and the *raison d'etre* of European dances as developed especially within the last two hundred years, is, that it is, like modern European painting and sculpture, regarded as a means of self-expression."

"The Indian ideal," the speaker proceeding said, "has been different. Whether in painting or in murals, whether in the sculpture of those great forms of Nataraja, Krishna and Durga, or music or the dance, Indian Art willingly adopts rigid conventions and subjects itself to very strict rules and disciplines and is anxious to eliminate the individual. One result of such an effort is that our art is largely anonymous. Speaking of European Art, the works of great Masters, like Rembrandt, Titian, Raphael, Velasquez, da Vinci, Benvenuto Celleni and Rodin attract thousands and millions, but who knows the authorship of our sculptures and images and murals? Who knows the artificers of Kanya Kumari or of the great gopuras, mandapams, stone and wood carvings at Madura, Tanjore, Tiruvarur, Trivandrum and Suchindrum? Nobody. Indian art has eliminated or striven to eliminate the individual and particular. It has striven to think of the individual as a fragment in a continuous existence, as an item of eternity. not as a protagonist of an art evolved for the purpose either of immortalisation, or as expression of a person's longings, emotions and aspirations, or even as originating some idea precious to humanity!"

STERN WARNING TO BRITONS BY THE PREMIER

Concluding, his recent address to Parliament, the Prime Minister said that "he could not give the House any flattering hopes, still less any guarantee. On the contrary, the coming winter afforded no assurance, as the Russian Ambassador had shrewdly pointed out, that the German pressure upon Russia would be relaxed. Nor did the winter give any assurance that the danger of invasion would be entirely lifted from Great Britain. The winter fog had dangers of its own, and the enemy had ample time for technical preparation. "We must certainly expect that in the spring, whatever happens meanwhile, very heavy fighting, heavier than any we have yet experienced in this war, will develop in the east, and also that the menace to this island of invasion will present itself in a very grave and sharp form. Only the most strenuous exertions and perfect unity of purpose, added to our traditional unrelenting tenacity, will enable us to act our part worthily in the prodigious world-drama in which we are now plunged! Let us make sure that these virtues are forthcoming!"

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AN OXFORD LECTURE

At the Indian Summer School at Oxford Mr S. Lall, C. I E, Deputy High Commissioner for India, discussed the subject of colour prejudice. Holding that such prejudice against Indians does exist, he said that it tends to embitter relations between Englishmen and Indians "It can and should be stamped out, but this will require conscious and conscientious effort The evil will not disappear if we ignore it. We must be careful not to allow bitterness to get the better of our reason The problem must be faced squarely but dispassionately by Indians and Englishmen if we are to find a satisfactory solution," he said

Admitting that English culture produced mingled feelings of admiration and distrust in the Indian, he added that the sensitiveness shown by Indians in relations with Englishmen was due to the wanton disrespect shown to Indians of standing in the earlier days of the British occupation of India.

RACIAL ARROGANCE

Most Englishmen in India in the past had a feeling that racial, social and political equality, however good as an ideal, was impracticable and impossible within any measurable distance of time In his opinion, the real cause of the trouble could be traced to the ideas of Imperialism which have been held by a few Englishmen who have returned to their country after long spells in the "far-flung" Empire. That they should be proud of the achievements of their country was understandable and even commendable, but that this should produce an attitude of racial superiority, racial arrogance, and racial domination was deplorable

AFTER EAST OF SUEZ

A change seemed to come over the Englishman as soon as he passed east of Suez! He then belonged to the ruling race which must maintain its position among the "Native'—a term the Indians resented It seemed inevitable that nations which became "empire-minded" should develop race and colour prejudice. But there was a hopeful sign in the new idea of the "British Commonwealth of Nations." "The final blow will come from the young men of both countries who, in the schools and universities, get to know and understand each other!"

• • •

We might add that two can play at this game of racial arrogance. Today the East can see nothing in the West which it envies. Even in Europe itself political subjection has never precluded racial arrogance. William Tell of Tyrol, with his bow and two arrows, could look with contempt upon the Austrian Governor on horseback! Ed.

GOVERNOR AND DISCHARGED PRISONERS

Presiding over the Annual Meeting of the Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, H. E. The Governor made the following interesting remarks -

He had taken keen interest in prison reform when he was in the House of Commons and particularly in the Borstal system From his personal experience, he would say that a very large number of people who first committed a crime and went to jail for the first time, did commit the crime probably on a sudden impulse, or through association with bad people A large number of them very sincerely regretted what they had done If societies, like the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, took them out when they came out of the jail and found them suitable jobs, these men would get on very straight, and in the end, become decent and useful citizens. But if, on the other hand they were turned out and rejected by society and were looked upon as out castes, they would revert to their old life and live their whole life in jail Therefore, it was the duty of the general public to support societies like this for their own moral satisfaction, and for the protection of society in general He remembered a case in England which would prove his contention. His family, His Excellency said, was taking interest in the Borstal system, and one discharged prisoner was taken on probation by the family as a servant. He led a very straight life, and when the war broke out, he enlisted and now he was a sergeant in the army, and about two months ago he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal! That was only one example and he believed that such instances could be increased He was certain that such work would yield very good results and he hoped that workers in the districts would make every effort to get such people recruited to the army The Army, the Navy and the Air Force were places in which one's character could be developed and in which men would be really equipped for life. Especialy in wartime they could become useful citizens.

• • •

Is there no scope for such an organisation in Mysore? Ed.

MEMORISING GOOD LITERATURE

Addressing an audience at Madras recently the Rt. Hon'ble Mr. Jayakar pointed out the necessity for learning good things by heart. Indians were a great nation noted for their memory He would like, on this occasion, to denounce the wrong notion that cramming was bad. Cramming without reason might be bad for examination But they should not leave anything unlearnt or uncrammed that deserved to be learnt. Brahmins in old days used to repeat *jata* and *ghana* every day Let them not lose that heritage for heaven's sake Let them keep that memory alive The speaker had learnt at the feet of professors who kept no books before them When a reference came, they repeated it from memory, word for word, and the students used to take it down "Acquire that habit of leaving nothing unlearnt or learnt by heart which you think is right in our literature If you do that you will still remain an Indian whatever your dress may be."

Proceeding Mr Jayakar said that Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar had referred to what he said in another place about the culture of Sanskrit as a unifying force. He had an opportunity of stating the plain truth before an audience slightly different from that before him Speaking to this audience, the bulk of whom were proud inheritors of ancient Brahminhood, his message would be worded some what differently His strong suggestion was that they should throw open this literature to Non Brahmins. Let them come in Let them feel in a growing measure that this heritage was as much theirs as that of the Brahmins. Right or wrong the Non-Brahmins felt that this inheritance was purely for the absorption of the higher castes. That feeling had to be removed. This problem of absorption had arisen in ancient days also And the sages had decided in favour of absorption of those who were suspicious or who had a tendency to differ from them The great heritage was there Preserve its purity by all means It was open in the past It must be open again Without that their purity of civilisation would not have lasted so long. Hinduism preserved its unity through the one process of adaptation and absorption. In this connection, Mr. Jayakar referred to the Yoga-Vasishtam and pointed out what Vasishta had laid down, namely, 'that person is qualified to study and competent to master, who feels that life is a bondage and that he has to get beyond its trammels, and who is not an absolute idiot or a conceited puppy' In these days, Hindus must keep together The only way to keep together was through cultural ties that existed from ancient times Good personal behaviour might be insisted upon and even asceticism to a certain extent, for asceticism brought on scholar ship. But this treasure should be thrown open in an increasing measure to all!

TRIBUTE TO INDIAN SOLDIERS BY BRITISH PREMIER

At the opening of the National Defence Council on the 6th inst. at Simla, H. E The Commander-in-Chief read the following tribute to Indian Soldiers by the Premier:

"I was deeply interested by all you reported to me about India's war effort. In the first year of the war, it was impossible to find the weapons and equipment necessary for the Indian army. In the second year something was done. In the third year, large supplies of the most deadly modern war apparatus will come in a steady flow to expanding formations of the Indian Army. The sons of India have already in this war shown themselves worthy of the highest respect and honour among military men! Wherever they have fought—in Cyrenaica, in the Sudan, in Eritrea, Abyssinia, Syria, and now latest of all in Persia—the Indian divisions have played an important and distinguished part. During 1942 the armies of India with their British comrades will be fighting on the long front from the Caspian to the Nile. By so doing, they will be barring the eastward progress of the war, and guarding the plains of Hindustan and the homes of their dear ones. This is a highly honourable task and also, as anyone can see, the best strategy. This is equally true whether applied to the interests of India herself or to the fortunes of the world-cause now being fought out"

* * *

Coming from the great Oracle, this is rather a frank tribute to the gallantry of the Indian army! Ed.

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LEGAL

In the High Court of Madras last week, their Lordships delivered judgment in a civil revision petition, No. (C. R. P. 1271 of 1939), in which the question for consideration was whether a co-mortgagee, when suing to recover his individual share in the mortgage must value his suit according to the full amount due under the deed or whether he might value it according to his own share.

The suit was originally presented in the Subordinate Judge's court, Palghat, and it was valued at Rs. 1,212, which was the share to which the plaintiff was entitled. The Subordinate Judge returned the plaint for presentation to the proper court on the ground that the amount did not fall within his jurisdiction, namely Rs. 3,000. The plaint was accordingly presented before the District Munsif, Alathur, who after a review of the decisions of the High Court held that the suit ought to be valued and the court fee paid on the full amount of the mortgage, namely Rs. 4,461, and that the suit for the plaintiff's share alone could not be maintained The District Munsif therefore returned the plaint for presentation to the proper court! It was again represented to the Subordinate Judge, Palghat, who held that as his original order returning the plaint had not been set aside by a superior court, he could not re-entertain it! Against that order the present revision was preferred. The case originally came before Lakshmana Rao, J. In view of conflict of opinion on the point the matter was referred to a Bench.

Their Lordships following the opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Varadachariar in 1937, 2 M. L. J. 666, held that a mortgage was a single individual cause of action and therefore a person seeking to enforce the mortgage even though he might be entitled only to a portion of the mortgage money had to seek for recovery of the full amount due under the mortgage and therefore he should pay court fees on the full amount. Their Lordships further observed that the proper court in this case was the Subordinate Judge's Court, Palghat.

* * *

The report does not state what time has elapsed since the case was first filed, and what money the Plaintiff has had to spend in going from pillar to post, and from post to poll, and now he stands again where he was! We wonder whether Law and Practice could not be made everywhere a little less vague, a little less dilatory, and a little less costly! Is it the plaintiffs that are in the wrong? Is it the Law? Or is it its dispensing?

We often recall in these days Sheridan's brilliant description of Justice, in the trial of Hastings:

"No my Lords, Justice is not this halt and miserable object; it is not the ineffective bawble of an Indian pagod; it is not the portentous phantom of despair; it is not like any fabled monster formed in the eclipse of reason, and found in some unhallowed grove of superstitious darkness and political dismay! No, my Lords. In the happy reverse of all this, I turn from the disgusting caricature to the real image! Justice I have now before me august and pure! The abstract idea of all that would be perfect in the spirits and the aspirings of men! where the mind rises; where the heart expands, where the countenance is ever placid and benign, where her favourite attitude is to stoop to the unfortunate; to hear their cry and to help them; to rescue and relieve, to succour and save; majestic, from its mercy; venerable, from its utility; uplifted, without pride; firm without obduracy; beneficent in each preference; lovely though in her frown!"

Now the frown is always there; the loveliness rarely! . . . . Ed.

CASTES WITHIN ISLAM

JUDGE ON DIVISIONS AMONG INDIAN MUSLIMS

GORAKHPUR.

"While Islamic religion did not recognise any social distinction within its folds, it appears that the Muhammadans in India, having come under the influence of the Hindu caste system did start some sort of social distinction among themselves," observed Mr M. Bhargava, Sessions Judge of Gorakhpur, delivering judgment in a civil suit, claiming ground-rent for three houses purchased by a Muslim book-seller.

Quoting from Martan's "History, antiquities, topography and statistics of Eastern India," the Judge observed: "It is apparent that even in the year 1836 in Gorakhpur district people recognised a division amongst Muslims between Sharies and Razils."

Inter alia, the Judge remarked Some Muslims, particularly those who were migrants from Persia, Arabia or Central Asia, or those who were converted to Islamic religion from amongst high caste Hindus, came to be classed as Sharies, whereas other converts from amongst low class Hindus, who continued to follow low class profession came to be regarded as Razils."

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Monday 20-10-1941.

NON-OFFICIAL PRESIDENT FOR THE ASSEMBLY

In the recent Representative Assembly an Adjournment motion was presented, and when it was disallowed by the President, the Congress group walked-out of the meeting. The Leader of the group then issued a statement on the walk-out, inter-alia stating therein that the Dewan's Presidentship of the Assembly was not conducive to unbiassed rulings, and that the absence of a non-official President was becoming galling to the House.

The statement was published by a section of the Press, and the propriety of that was discussed thread-bare in the Assembly for one full day, at the cost of a few thousand rupees to the tax-payer.

We ourselves hold that the appointment of superannuated men retired from elsewhere, and the continuance of excessively superannuated men in public service, is not fair for Government. The public do not like it, and it means that Government wants to benefit some favourite individuals out of public funds, in violation of its own Rules!

In the case of Mr. Forbes, which gave rise to the Adjournment motion, the appointment of Electrical Adviser was some weeks old, and as it was not raised on the first day alone, its "urgency" was rather past. Moreover the appointment had already been considerably discussed in the form of interpellations, and both sides knew what they felt about it, and the disallowance of the Adjournment motion could not be said to have denied the Assembly an opportunity to express its dissatisfaction. The very fact that the motion was disallowed might be taken to mean that Government knew that the appointment would be disapproved, and the purpose of the Adjournment motion was to make Government know it, and nothing more!

Whether "walk-out" of large bodies of responsible and self-respecting members is a dignified parliamentary practice is a matter to be considered academically by parliamentarians, and a convention set up. To us its dignity or merit appears to be debatable. When the law and the suffrage of your electorate give you the right to sit there, and no power on earth can send you out except as an extreme measure, why should you voluntarily condemn yourself to go out, and then come in? The procedure may be good enough for a mock-Parliament of young men, but not for dignified parliamentarians dealing with the administration of a country. We think that a substitute has to be found.

Our main purpose however is to examine the objection to the Dewan's Presidentship of the Assembly, and the claim for a non-official President. We are afraid that public men are making too much of the official bogy, and the so-called non-officialisation is ending only in providing jobs for non-officials of a particular mentality, who will not satisfy the public any better, and who will only add to the public expenditure. We have yet to see a non-official who does not become officialised when he is raised to a remunerative public post, whether it is a Gubernatorial or Viceregal Executive Council Membership, or Presidentship of an Assembly or District Board or Municipal Council.

That this is so even in the Cabinet of Great Britain is shown by the instance of Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary. The *Guardian* writes, "His decision is almost equivalent to saying that it is not in the national interest for members of Parliament to enquire into the Home Secretary's exercise of his powers over the liberty of the subject. Of course Mr. Morrison does not like such investigations. He has developed since he went to the Home Office an authoritarian temper, and does not wish to be bothered to give explanations for his rather sweeping acts!"

The President of the Assembly, whether he be official or non-official, is there to prevent disorder among rival sections of members, and guide orderly deliberations. He must be inherently respectable, commanding the respect of the members, and conduct the

proceedings tactfully. He cannot go on giving unsatisfactory rulings, and survive very long. But on the other hand his rulings cannot be fashioned so as to satisfy the wishes of one or other party. They must be according to Rules, and they must have reason behind them. Both he and the members are bound by Rules. Both have rights, and just as he must protect their rights, they must protect him and defer to him within reason. If they don't, and throw contempt upon him instead, the result will be pandemonium and no good to any-body!

In the present case, let us remember that, unlike other States, there are two political institutions in our State, the Legislative Council and the Representative Assembly. The Legislative Council is the law-making and budget sanctioning body. It really controls the administration mostly. If the Presidentship of that had been vested in the Dewan, one could have imputed motives to the framers of the constitution, and to him as seeking to influence decisions by his official bias.

But the Representative Assembly's position and atmosphere are different. It is composed on the one side, of men from all stratas of society, and the farthest corners of the State. And on the other side it includes the whole of the Executive Government in all its branches. As such is it not right that the Dewan should be there to bring cohesion between the official and non-official elements? The Dewan is the Executive Head of the administration, but many things occur in it of which he can have no knowledge. The Representative Assembly is just the place where the representative public, face to face with responsible officers, could bring to his notice errors and short-comings, ventilate their grievances and seek redress, and give the official world an idea of public feeling on administrative matters. Therefore is it not right, is it not wise that the Dewan should be its President and know first-hand how his administration is affecting the public, and their reactions to it? The Legislative Council's decisions are to some extent mandatory. But the representations and resolutions of the Representative Assembly are, in effect, not mandatory but recommendatory, and it is for the public good that the Dewan should have a direct hand in its discussions and its decisions.

It will be no loss to him not to preside over it, and nominate a non-official. But is it to be supposed that any non-official who may be nominated will be a proper substitute and will not gall the members? Or is it suggested that a person elected by one party should be accepted as a god-send by all other parties? Neither. It will only mean another job for a favoured non-official, not of undisputed merit, but of doubtful worth! Is that what is wanted? We hope not!

. . . . . .

Editor.

ADVICE TO ANGLO-INDIANS

MADRAS.

At the 62nd Anniversary of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled Association of Madras, Rev. D. R. Bazeley observed that the Anglo-Indians had, however, to look beyond the war and to the part that they would have to play in India after the war in the India of the future. He felt that things were going to be different from what they were at present. The one thing that Anglo-Indians neglected in the past or had done without any very good spirit or a full heart, and which they ought to do whole-heartedly was to "cultivate a sane Indian outlook." "Until we come to look upon the peoples of this land as people who are like our own selves," the speaker said, "we shall never get to believe that we belong to this land or make common cause with them, rising or falling together. We are only one of the numerous communities in India. Let us realise that, and teach our children that there is no home for us anywhere else. This is our land and our home. We are born on Indian soil to spend our days here, and end our days here. To have any outlook which is not a sane Indian outlook is, to say the least of it, un Christian. We have no right to despise the people of this land. You do not need my telling you that there are many in this land who are highly cultured and who have a great deal to teach you and me. It is not charitable, indeed it is quite wrong and erroneous, to try in any way to place ourselves in a position of superiority to them, because there are many Indians to-day who are very highly cultured and who could teach us a very great deal. So, let us get rid of complexes."

* * *

We thank Rev. D. R. Bazeley. Ed.

HYDERABAD FINANCES

BUDGET FOR 1941-42

HYDERABAD.

The Hyderabad budget for the year Ayoa (1351) fasli (1941-42), places the anticipated receipts at Rs. 915.73 lakhs and the expenditure at Rs. 913.77 lakhs.

The Government have adopted for purposes of revenue estimates for 1351 fasli, Rs. 274.0 lakhs under Land Revenue, Rs. 120 lakhs under Customs, Rs. 171 lakhs under Excise, as against 311, 120 and 175 respectively in 1350 fasli. The decrease of Rs. 40 lakhs under these heads has been partly counter-balanced by increases under sugar excise duty and excise duty on matches, which had been doubled by the Government of India. Ordinary expenditure for the year 1351 has been estimated at Rs. 907.75 lakhs, which is due to the reduction of Rs. 9.32 lakhs under interest charges and contribution to debt redemption reserve. Of important additions are one lakh for primary education, Rs. 1.9 lakhs for meeting the increased needs of the Osmania General Hospital and Victoria Zenana Hospital and for opening a Zenana ward in the Unani Hospital, Rs. 1.17 lakhs for the Office of the Reforms Adviser ,and Rs .64 lakh for the School of Art and Women's Industrial School. Besides these, additional grants, and extraordinary grants from current revenues amounting to Rs. 6.02 lakhs, have also been provided, including a sum of Rs. 3.89 lakhs for repairs to tanks which were breached in large numbers in last year's monsoon.

In the matter of expenditure from past surpluses, Rs. 71.69 lakhs have been provided in addition to allotments given from current revenues. Provision has also been made in the budget for Rs. 110.36 on account of capital expenditure, which includes Rs. 28.94 lakhs for gold prospecting.

According to revised estimates for the 1350 fasli, the total receipts improved from Rs. 926.51 lakhs and increased to Rs. 962 lakhs, while the surplus was improved to Rs. 60.57 lakhs.

The Budget statement also contains a brief review, describing the state of Hyderabad's finances at the time when Sir Akbar Hydari retired from the service of the State. It mentions that six reserves were created between 1331, 1332 fasli by Sir Akbar Hydari soon after he became the Finance Minister, the total present balance of which is Rs. 31'53 crores. Nawab Mahdi Yar Jung, Finance Member, pays a tribute to Sir Akbar Hydari for his introduction of the scheme of departmentalisation.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WAR FUND

A sum of Rs. 22,71,803-9-11 has so far been contributed to the Mysore War Fund. Of this, Rs. 17,14,990 represents the contributions made by H. H. the Maharaja, and the balance of Rs. 5,56,813-9-11 represents the subscriptions of the people of Mysore to the War Fund and collections from entertainments, etc. The collections made by the several Committees are given below :—

No.	*District*	*Collections up to 17th Sept. 1941.* Rs.	a.	p.
1.	Chitaldrug	57,460	0	11
2.	Shimoga	50,874	0	4
3.	Bangalore	48,999	10	4
4.	Kolar	40,306	6	9
5.	Mysore	41,039	4	4
6.	Tumkur	25,561	8	10
7.	Kadur	28,413	2	9
8.	Mandya	24,716	12	5
9.	Hassan	16,416	12	3
10.	City Municipality, Bangalore.	20,211	0	0
11.	Do Mysore ...	12,730	0	6
	Total ...	3,66,728	11	5

	Rs.	a.	p.
Disbursements from collections made by the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board.	72,019	4	8
Collection by Planters of Kadur District remitted direct to Madras War Fund.	1,484	0	0

District Boards, Municipalities and Village Panchayets have also contributed liberally to the War Fund. A number of Government servants are making regular monthly contributions. Bus Owners and Proprietors of Cinemas have been giving handsome contributions periodically.

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The most astonishing thing about dynamite is the uncanny precision with which expert handlers can make it perform so many tasks. Razing obsolete chimneys is a frequent order for blasters—and a fellow who didn't know his dynamite could spread one of these stacks over half a country. These fellows, though, will not only lay the chimney where you specify, but if you care to stand a stick upright in the ground, they'll drive it in with the falling chimney!

They'll do even more difficult tricks than that. In one recent case the only possible area where the chimney could safely fall was thirty per cent too short to accommodate the full length of the chimney. So the ingenious blaster set two charges, one at the base, the other part way up.

Firing the lower one first, he toppled the giant chimney towards the narrow area where it must fall. Then, when the structure was part way down, he fired the upper charge, folding the top of the chimney back on itself and dropping both portions into the required space!

In remodelling a factory it was necessary to remove some machinery bases of concrete, ranging 10 to 12 ft. high and 6 ft. thick. The walls and roof were practically all glass and some extremely delicate pieces of electrical machinery stood not more than 10 ft. distant, any disarrangement of which would have been costly The blasters blandly set their charges and reduced the concrete bases to fragments, completing their job without cracking a pane of glass or disturbing any of the equipment!

On another occasion a wall was blasted out of a bank while business went on as usual, and not a single book-keeper made a single blot! And just fancy the idea of killing sharks with dynamite charges in a fashion which doesn t injure their skin for the tanners!

It is easy for us to grasp the fact that ninety-two miles of tunnels were dug from Colorado River to Los Angelos in six years, as contrasted with the more than 1 000 years it would have required without the help of dynamite, writes Paul W. Kearney in 'Nation's Business' It is simple to see how one blast could, in a split second, open a river channel 28 ft. wide, 12 ft. deep and 1,700 ft. long, because it is just such jobs for which we mentally accept dynamite.

But, contrast that with the widespread use of dynamite in fruit orchards where, when the soil is gently loosened before trees are planted, the roots are able to spread better, the soil holds water longer—and new trees bear fruit two seasons earlier than normal. Even old trees that have ceased bearing are frequently rejuvenated by the judicious application of a little dynamite to the earth!

One of the most dramatic applications of this explosive in recent years is its employment in prospecting for oil. In this work, a charge of dynamite—from a few ounces to forty pounds, depending on local conditions—is buried in the earth. At points from one to seven miles away delicate instruments have been previously placed to pick up the earth vibrations from the shot and record them photographically.

From these records and from the known nature of the rock arround the shot, and the time required for the vibration to reach various points, scientists are able to locate deposits of oil and minerals with surprising accuracy!

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VOL. 2 No. 6] MONDAY 27—10—1941 [PRICE 0—1—0

WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

SRI RAJAKUMARI LILAVATHI'S ADVICE

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LIFE IN JAIL

Mr M. Bapineedu, M. L. A., gives an interesting account of a Satyagrahi's life in Jail —

After enjoying the privilege of a stay of ten months in Jail, which all patriots take for hereditage, I was lucky to be released on October 1, to join in the Gandhi Day celebrations on the 2nd Selected, picked, responsible satyagrahis, representing the Legislature, Congress Committees and Local Boards, A. I. C. C members ex Ministers, ex Parliamentary Secretaries and Editors were my companions All usefully engaged themselves in serious studies and in spinning, and there were also research study circles Mornings started with the study of sacred texts from the Gita, the Bible, Kural Bharatam, Bagavatam, Upanishads, Quran Many have made progress in learning languages, such as Urdu, Tamil, Hindi and Bengali Mr. Gopala Reddi has mastered Urdu, Tamil and Hindi Kalidas, Tagore, Tulasidas, Pothanna and Tikkana, have become familiar figures to us Discussion groups on Agriculture, Literature, Religion, and Economics helped us to exchange views One need not be surprised, if after the release of the leaders, commentaries, literary works, biographies, revised editions of previous popular works, and translations of old classics see the light of day It was a sight to see our aged and revered leaders like Rajaji and Andhra Kesari toil from early hours in the morning to late in the night, absorbed in reading classics with others, spinning, studying and writing and certainly putting to shame the younger section, and spurring the latter to study In spite of occasional bad health and the stuffy Trichy heat, we were able to convert the Jail into 'Vidyapitha' Santiniketan,' 'Sadhana Asramam,' 'Congress Concentration Camp,' 'Assembly House'—all in one! All prejudices born out of language and District melted away in this atmosphere, and the thirst for knowledge was satisfied! Over worked workers had much needed rest! Struggling souls secured some peace of mind by diving deep into Vyasa Tulasidas, Aravindo, the Alwars, Pothana, Sree Krishna and the Quran!

* * *

Not bad! What does the poet say?

"Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage!" Ed.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND THE PRESS

A New York paper has sent a cheque to President Roosevelt for giving a suggestive headline for one of his press talks!

It was when he got back to Washington after his talks with Churchill

Opening Volume I of Carl Sandburg's *Abraham Lincoln The War Years* at page 553, he read the assembled newspapermen what the Emancipator said to Mary Livermore, the Civil War reformer and social worker, who visited him for a word of cheer and comfort after one of the war's bloodiest battles, Antietam

"I have no word of encouragement to give The military situation is far from bright, and the country knows it as well as I do

The fact is the people have not yet made up their minds that we are at war . They have not buckled down to the determination to fight this war through for they have got the idea into their heads that we are going to get out of this fix somehow by strategy! That's the word—*Strategy*! .

"They have no idea that the war is to be carried on and put through by hard, tough fighting that it will hurt somebody and no headway is going to be made while this delusion lasts!

To the U S Press Mr Roosevelt gave a free headline "President Quotes Lincoln and Draws Parallel! Many a U S newspaper used the headline and the New York (tabloid) *Daily Mirror* decided to give Mr Roosevelt a cheque for a typo head writer's daily pay sent him $5 94, deducting 6 cents for Social Security tax!

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SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR BURMA

London.

The case of Burma for complete Self-Government is outlined in a lengthy letter in the *Times* by the Hon. U Saw, Prime Minister of Burma.

Replying to the criticism by a correspondent in a recent issue of *The Times*, Mr. U Saw denies that many Burmese politicians are inclined to use the contribution of Burma to the war effort as a lever for extracting from the British Government further and more far-reaching promises of attention to the status of their country.

The letter continues, "No politician of note in Burma has to my knowledge taken this attitude, and the contribution of Burma to the British war effort has been given freely and without any attempt to make conditions either by the Burmese Cabinet or by any politician outside the Cabinet. Public opinion in Burma is unanimous that my country should fight on the side of the democracies in this war, but naturally many of us are anxious to know what status is to be given to Burma in the British Commonwealth when the war is ended. What Burma wants to know is whether in fighting for the freedom of the world, she is also fighting for her own freedom. Does victory by the democracies mean full self-government to Burma? The demand for complete self-government is a unanimous demand of the Burmese people."

* * *

When the Indian Congress wants a promise of Self-Government before it can undertake the war effort, it is reviled as bargaining. When the Burmans, on the other hand, readily take up the war effort, and then want a promise of Self-Government, they are also reviled as bargaining!

Will some reasonable person dispassionately explain to us why bargaining is bad; and whether, honestly, there is no bargaining in the transactions of the Allied Powers? Why is the world so full of humbug? Ed.

DEWANS OF STATES

APPOINTMENT OF EUROPEANS

New Delhi.

"The appointment of Major Webb as Dewan of Cutch in succession to Tribhvandas Rana is the third instance in recent weeks of the substitution of Europeans for Indian Dewans—the other two being Cochin and Kolhapur. Another change of a similar character is expected in the near future in an important State," says a report.

His Excellency the Viceroy combines in his single person the dual role of Governor General and Crown Reprsentative. As Governor General he is increasingly Indianising his Cabinet. But as Crown Representative, he is increasingly Europeanising the Dewanships of the States! Is it because the people of the States do not agitate and clamour like the people of British India? For the benefit of His Excellency we might translate a Canarese saying, "To give butter to one eye, and lime to the other eye!" European Dewans are like "giving lime to the other eye!" May we ask His Excellency to give us too some of the butter? Ed.

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The Rationalist.

Monday 27-10-1941.

THE JOG FALLS PROJECT

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

"What is truth?", jesting Pilate is said to have asked Jesus Christ. The Royalty of Mysore has as its motto "I will uphold Truth only." Amidst the many controversies of the Jog Falls Project, the claims and counter-claims, and the interpellations and replies, the public are left bewildered as to its real truth!

Was it Mr. Forbes's scheme? Was it the Committee's scheme? Was it Mr. Y. Ramaswamy's scheme?

We remember to have heard of it for some years past, and the vicissitudes it has passed through do make a sorry tale! It has begun in awful waste, it has given rise to endless quarrels, it has caused a few deaths!

Masterful Mr. Forbes, with American dash, put forth a scheme, got it approved by a facile Government, got the Ruler of the State to lay the foundation stone—it was on that occasion that many Reserve Police lost their lives,—and all that has turned out a fiasco! He, of course, will not reimburse Goverment for the huge loss it has sustained thereby! Was the question ever raised? And how was it shelved? The question of the cycle to be adopted, the question of placing contracts for the machinery, the question of staff to be employed, have each been bones of severe contention, and on which of them Mr. Forbes's advice has won the day we do not know. Nevertheless he is now formally installed as Adviser to Government!

But what kind of advisership is this? Because Madras calls its Court High Court we changed the name of ours to High Court. So did our I. G. of Education become Director of Public Instruction. And Government Advocate, Advocate General. Is Mr. Forbes called Adviser like the Advisers to the Governor of Madras? In British India some provinces have got Ministers; some provinces have got Advisers. We have gone one better, and have both! And Mr. Forbes is made an Adviser, because his salary is more than that of the Ministers! Whether his advice has been of much value in the past or not is another matter!

However it is obvious that since the present place and scheme are not those which Mr. Forbes presented to the late Ruler with much fan-fare, the scheme cannot be considered his.

And what about the Committee? No doubt the Dewan has given generous thanks to the Committee in his Dussarah Address, but is the scheme theirs? No fear! They have been meeting and meeting for years; they endorsed the previous scheme of Mr. Forbes which has been discarded, they despised the person who dared to tell them that the scheme had faults, and treated his objections with disdainful contempt! They approved the previous scheme of Mr. Forbes with all its flaws; and they now unavoidably approve of the present scheme which is after all Mr. Y. Ramaswami's, but they take credit for it themselves!

Is it Shakespeare who has said, "Frailty, thy name is woman?" The word woman there must include man also; just as in law "man includes woman."

If the present scheme is theirs, what were they doing all this while? Why did they allow an erratic scheme to be placed before H. H. The late Maharaja and be inaugurated by him?

We require no reply. Thus by elimination we reach the third claimant to the authorship of the scheme, Mr. Y. Ramaswami.

We are not aged, well, not so aged as Mr. Forbes or the Members of the Committee. We have no titles, nor pensions, nor superiority complex. We have no antipathy towards Mr. Y. Ramaswami. We look at the matter on its merits, and as one of the public, and we see no reason to deny to Mr. Y. Ramaswami the credit due to him not only for conceiving the present scheme, but also for succeeding in forcing it on the attention

of those concerned, without considering the consequences to himself! And the consequences have been serious, and his sacrifices heavy!

There is a saying in sanskrit, "ಯುಕ್ತಿಯುಕ್ತಮುಪಾದೇಯಂ ವಚನಂ ಬಾಲಕಾದಪಿ!!" meaning "you must accept a good advice, even if it comes from a mere boy!"

There is also the English saying, "Give the devil its due!" Then why refuse the advice, and deny credit to a man known to be able, just because he perhaps lacks soft and winning ways, and may have hurt your susceptibilities in a past birth? Is that the eternal lot of all persons of ability who may have the misfortune to be born in Mysore? How deplorable!

There is no salvation for a State whose Government represses or discredits the abilities of such of its people as manifest them. States do not progress by means of the mercenary old men whom they engage from outside, who are not bound to the States by patriotism, or loyalty, or inspiring ambition. It is a baneful policy, and is contrary to the canons of good administration.

It may be that Mr. Ramaswamy has pursued wrong methods for securing recognition for his work, but Government do not rise in stature by trying to punish him for them in wrong ways. Governments should be just, upright, and humane. So they would be obeyed, respected, and loved! We cannot help hoping that our new Government may try to drop some of the old ways, and govern in higher and nobler ways. If Mr. Ramaswamy has done a service to the State, it will be no credit to Government to be blind to that service, or to refuse to recognise it handsomely. We trust the matter will be viewed with an open mind, and in a generous spirit. And we trust that the future Progress of the Jog Project will be less chequered, less blundering, and less wasteful than heretofore!

Editor.

SOLDIERS' VANDALISM

Answering a question about soldiers' vandalism in Bangalore, the Law Minister, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, stated that the Government were fully cognisant of the incidents happening in Bangalore and proper instructions had been given to the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore to arrange for extra police lorries to patrol the city always and to prevent such occurrences. This action was being ordered to be taken with a view to infusing confidence in the public and assuring them that there was no need for panic and that the Government were doing their best in the matter. He explained how and why it was impossible to declare the whole city "out of bounds," but added that every day "out of bounds" area was being slowly extended in all important parts of the city. It was really a matter of shame that indian soldiers should have behaved in this manner. The Government were also contemplating to recruit regimental police to prevent the recurrence of such cases in future.

Concluding, the Minister assured the House that Government would do all that lay in their power in this connection, but he could not promise more at present.

* * * *

Why this diffidence? Bangalore is not an occupied territory, and our Government have got full power to maintain its peace? The military are not above Government? If their discipline is inefficient or bad, and they are let loose on the city, Government have the right to check misbehaviour? If the military behave like this in peace times, how can they behave decently in campaigns? Surely they must be taught better? Ed.

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THERE'S GOLD IN SEAWEED!

It is only within recent times that scientists have given serious attention to the chemical properties of seaweed.

Seaweed is well known as a useful source of iodine, bromine, and potassium salts which are widely employed both in medicine and in industry. Experiments show that we can obtain the basic substances for making paper, clothing, and even things like glass and imitation rubber and leather from this plant.

The idea of using seaweed as a substitute for wood plup in paper manufacture may sound fantastic. But scientists have known for years that all varieties of this plant contain a percentage of cellulose. So if they can discover practicable methods of extracting it on a commercial scale, Britain alone has unlimited new resources of the raw material for paper, artificial silk clothing and other everyday merchandise, and war essentials now produced from the cellulose fibre of trees.

Small quantities of seaweed paper have already been produced in American laboratories. But at the moment the cost of processing the raw substance is too high to make it anything like a satisfactory proposition for the world market.

Although seaweed is regularly harvested in some parts of the British Isles, we are making use of but a small proportion of the vast quantities which get washed up around these shores, says 'Armchair Science.' Some indication of the immensity of this potential sea wealth may be gained from the fact that there is a single bed in the English Channel which extends more than a hundred square miles. Thousands of tons a year are used by a little known industry on the Thames estuary, where the seaweed is processed and converted into imitation leather and a kind of rubber cork for making boots and shoes, upholstery and floor coverings. Only an expert is able to distinguish a pair of seaweed boots from a pair made of real hide.

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GOOD FOR FOOD AND CLOTHING

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In no part of the world, however, has seaweed been exploited to such good purpose as in the Far East, where it has long been the staple food of the peasants. In Japan it is consumed not only in the raw state, but it is also made into soups, stews, jams and sweets.

The Japanese also use seaweed for making clothes and shoes and domestic furnishings. And a large factory recently established outside Tokyo turns out about five tons of seaweed "wool" every day. This new product resembles the genuine article to a remarkable degree, only it is more hard wearing. Furthermore, the cost of manufacture is considerably less than that of making synthetic wool out of staple fibre.

DROWSINESS

A FEW HINTS

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PROPER POSTURE

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Simple is his method by which abdomen control can be gained, if the stomach is occasionally contracted during the day, it raises the ribs by contraction of the inter-costal muscles, and by the pull of the head and neck muscles, which lift the chest as a whole. The muscles pulling back the shoulder blades come into action.

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BRITAIN AND INDIA

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Where administration has been mainly from London, it has often been bad. But the evils have been due not to a tendency to exploitation, but to the tendency of London to interfere as little as possible. If there had been more of "imperialist exploitation" in, say, the West Indies, there might have been less of poverty, and the British taxpayer would not to-day be handing out large sums for the relief of colonial budgets.

How many are aware that for twenty years India has made her own tariff, and has used that tariff-making power again and again to exclude British goods; and that, even when Britain controlled India's tariff, the Indian market was open to the whole world on equal terms?

That the evolution of India toward Dominion status should be slower than in the case of nations like Canada is easily explained. India is not a nation, but a group of many separate peoples, differing in cultures, languages, religions, social habits far more than the nations of continental Europe differ one from another.

These indubitable facts bear on Britain's hesitation to grant India Dominion status in existing conditions of the world. Britain would repeat, on a vastly greater scale, the situation which she now confronts as the result of having granted Dominion status to Eire. Her evacuation of the Irish naval bases has immensely increased her defence difficulties at a time when she stands in mortal peril. Britain's defeat would mean the end of the independence of Ireland, and the prospective independence of India, quite as much as it would mean the end of the independence of Britain.

Britain continues to prepare the peoples of India for self-government. How far they have gone that way may be gathered from the fact that in the [illegible] of nearly 400 million people there are barely 1,000 British officials. In the making of laws, the work of the courts, the management of the cities, the schools, the hospitals, not one in a thousand *employee* is British. The rest are Indian.

Under British rule, India has built 36,000 miles of railroad which have enormously diminished famine by quick carriage of grain. If the building of these railroads had depended upon Indian capital, most of them would never have been built at all. India's irrigation system is now the greatest in the world. Over 20,000 miles of canals are operated in the Punjab alone, and over 71 million acres are irrigated in the country as a whole. Under one single project—that of the Bhakra Dam which will be 384 feet high—the area to be irrigated will be four times the whole irrigated area of Egypt.

Could capital for these projects have been found without the guarantee of the British Government, or the projects themselves carried through by a peasant country without the co-operation of British industry? Britain has been guilty of grave offences in the government of India, just as the British Government has been guilty of grave offences in the government of Britain. But if our final judgment of the net results in India is even to approach fairness, British achievements must be set against the offences.

The alternative to imperialism—the government of one country by another—is not for each to be independent that means in practice chaos. It is rather, partnership on a basis of equality. Toward an equality of right among partners, the British Commonwealth is on the whole assuredly working. In an anarchic world which above all needs integration, we shall not, if we are wise, destroy such integrations as history has bequeathed to us!

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THERE'S GOLD IN SEAWEED!

It is only within recent times that scientists have given serious attention to the chemical properties of seaweed.

Seaweed is well known as a useful source of iodine, bromine, and potassium salts which are widely employed both in medicine and in industry. Experiments show that we can obtain the basic substances for making paper, clothing, and even things like glass and imitation rubber and leather from this plant.

The idea of using seaweed as a substitute for wood plup in paper manufacture may sound fantastic. But scientists have known for years that all varieties of this plant contain a percentage of cellulose So if they can discover practicable methods of extracting it on a commercial scale, Britain alone has unlimited new resources of the raw material for paper, artificial silk clothing and other everyday merchandise, and war essentials now produced from the cellulose fibre of trees.

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"VALUES IN LIFE"

MADRAS.

Addressing Madras Youth recently, Mr. S. Satyamurti said that they in this country had certain values in life which were very different from those held in other countries. Whether Hindus, Muslims or Christians, they had, through the ages, valued self-sacrifice. Mahatma Gandhi's tremendous influence with the masses was not due to his intellectual powers or vast learning, great as they were, but because people knew that there was nothing which he would not sacrifice for the great ideals he lived for. He embodied in himself the utmost self-sacrifice of which a man was capable. Similarly, self-sacrifice stood out as the most distinguished characteristic of the founders of great religions, Jesus christ, Lord Buddha and Mahomed the Prophet.

Respect for the aged, had been inculcated in their country from early times. Whatever the future might have in store for their land, they should always respect the aged and learn to respect learning of the right kind. The value which they attached to womanhood, especially to motherhood, was, Mr. Satyamurti added, a thing the like of which they could not find.

If they wanted to have a balanced outlook on life, lead a happy life and make others happy, there was no more fruitful training than what could be got by reading their sacred literature and imbibing its great ideals. Whatever religion they might belong to, they should read the sacred literature belonging to it at least for a few minutes each day. The things that were happening to-day in the West were the results of a material and—on the whole he regretted to say—"godless civilisation!"

Mr. Satyamurti urged that they should judge a person by what he was and what he did, and not by any extraneous considerations. Among all communities there were good and bad men. They should, therefore, judge by the individual, and not by the community to which by an accident that individual belonged.

INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN MYSORE

BANGALORE.

Mr. P. H. Krishna Rao, Census Commissioner in Mysore, addressing a Bangalore audience recently, said that this year, along with the general census, a census was taken of persons employed in all industrial establishments in the State. As distinct from industrial establishments, special statistics were also collected about cottage industries, a cottage industry being defined as one which was practised by the members of a family without any hired labourers on monthly remuneration. After detailing the number employed in each big industrial undertaking, Mr. Krishna Rao said that a sum of nearly 11 crores of rupees had been invested on the railways, the hydro-electric works and water-supply works, and it yielded a net revenue of 82⅓ lakhs of rupees per annum, which accrued to the benefit of the general tax-payer, after contributing to the interest and sinking fund.

"We have not yet begun to manufacture Arms, Ammunition and Military stores," concluding Mr. Krishna Rao said. "The progress of the war may, before long, compel us to do so."

* * *

Not "benefit of the general tax-payer" please, but the benefit of fortunate tax-payers or others who could secure contracts in their own names or in the names of their kith and kin, or wangle jobs for themselves or their relations! Benefit of the tax-payer would be when, as a result of this income, taxes are reduced. Now it is just the contrary! Ed.

WIDER OUTLOOK ON KHADI

PANDIT NEHRU'S APPEAL

Meerut.

"It is absurd our sitting complacently and allowing our minds to go rusty in this ever-changing world. Khadi has a message of hope for our millions; of that I am convinced," writes Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in the course of a letter from Dehra Dun Jail, to the Secretary of the Gandhi Ashram, Meerut, on the occasion of "Gandhi Jayanti."

The letter continues: "I am gratified at the progress Khadi is making, yet it distresses me that the progress is not swifter. Because of this, I sometimes wonder if we have not got into some kind of rut in our method of work. Year after year the same methods, the same appeals from the same persons to the same purchasers, more or less in fact everything from top to bottom is the same, except the fact that you have shifted your head-quarters to Goshainganj—this does not apply to our province only but to the whole country. A little more intelligence, a wider outlook, a greater and closer study of existing conditions seem to be needed throughout. War time was and is particularly the period when Khadi should advance by leaps and bounds. I regret to observe that not even an attempt is made to think over the whole problem in order to find out where we err or do not fit in with the conditions that prevail.

"In China, three years ago, a semi-private attempt was made to start industrial co-operatives to promote local production of all kinds of goods, chiefly by cottage industries. That was a different problem from ours and it was intimately related to war conditions there. Even so, it is astonishing how this movement spread and developed on co-operatives. Now there are more than twenty thousand co-operatives functioning successfully, even behind the Japanese lines. This movement has saved China from economic collapse and in the long run has been more important than the military resistance. We see here something that fits in with circumstances and therefore spreads like a forest fire, and not something that requires continually wet-nursing for it to maintain its srength.

"The Chinese industrial co-operatives cannot be compared to our Khadi movement as they are different in outlook and methods, and yet there is much in common and we can learn greatly from them.

"I mention this as an instance. It is absurd our sitting complacently and allowing our minds to go rusty in this ever-changing world. Khadi has a message of hope for our millions, of that I am convinced. But I begin to doubt if it will reach the millions unless one thinks hard and deep!"

THE DEFENCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta speaking in the Indian Legislative Assembly referring to the promise given to members of a tour to the Suez area and Singapore, said that while many Maharajas and Nawabs had already been on that tour, members of the Committee had not yet had a similar opportunity. Members of the Committee had been taken round some important military centres in India, but other centres like Belgaum, Deolali and Mhow had been left out of their programme. He had himself suggested a visit to these places, but had been politely told that he would be given an opportunity later!

* * *

Should not Mr. Mehta be thankful that he had been told "politely," and not impolitely? Mr. Mehta and others are no doubt glad that they have been nominated to the Defence Council. Is it their desire that they should make use of the occasion to have a grand "joy ride" all over the country at public expense? Perhaps they have not much else to do!

Ed.

I have read your leader on Jog Falls Project with greatest admiration. What a compelling style you possess! The background you prepare for the subject-matter leaves a vivid picture on the readers' mind so pleasant and so compelling! Your style is that of the greatest short-story writer,—Maupaussant, I believe, is his name!

A Reader.

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MYSORE.

"PLOUGHING FOR VICTORY"

U. P. ADVISER'S PLEA

LUCKNOW.

"Ploughing for victory" was the subject discussed at a Press Conference called by Mr. P. W. Marsh, Adviser to the Governor of the United Provinces.

Mr. Marsh stated that those who lived by cultivation and could not directly help in the war should best help towards victory by working their hardest from now forward to secure the largest possible area of rabi. He gave an assurance that the Irrigation Department would do its best to help the cultivator. The Agricultural Department had already made arrangements to the best of their power for supplying improved seeds.

Mr. Marsh estimated that the total area under rabi during the coming season of 1941-42 should not be less than 20 million acres. Comparing this third year of the present war, with the area which was sown in the fourth year of the Great War, that is 1918-19, he showed how much stronger the position now was. In that year, the area fell from a normal of 20 million acres to 15 million acres. Then the area irrigated by the existing canals was 2,075,000 acres, while in 1939-40, the canals and tube wells irrigated 3,762,000 acres. Since 1918, 300,000 masonry wells had been constructed.

* * * *

What exactly is "directly helping the War," and what is not? Will some knowing person explain to us? Ed.

THE QUEEN IS NOW A GOOD SHOT

WITH RIFLE AND REVOLVER

"The Queen has learned to shoot both with rifle and revolver!

She is now good with either weapon but is better with the rifle.

War Office experts coached her, and she practised daily on the miniature range used by the Home Guard at Buckingham Palace. The Queen used ordinary service weapons—the 303 rifle fitted with a Morris tube to take smaller ammunition, and the 38 revolver of the type issued to officers. The Duchess of Kent has also become an expert revolver shot."

* * *

Says a report. But we suppose the Queens in India have to take a revolver licence before they can touch arms, small or big! Ed.

FRAUD IN IMPERIAL BANK

BERHAMPORE.

With the arrest of Mr. K. Raghava Rao, Cashier, Imperial Bank, Berhampore, and Mr. Bhushanam, Shroff of the Bank, the number of those who have been arrested so far in connection with alleged fraud and forgery in the bank, involving a sum of Rs. 12,000, comes to six!

A few days back Mr. P. Venkateswarlu, Sub-Agent of the Bank, who was under orders of transfer to Rangoon and who was on leave, was arrested on the strength of an alleged confession he made to the Agent. He was produced before the First Class Magistrate who recorded a statement from him. Bail was refused to him.

Three more arrests were effected in the last few days. Messrs. S. Suryanarayana, M. K. Gupta and M. Tarinayya, who are alleged to be constituents of the Bank, were also arrested. All these three persons were granted bail.

The Cashier and the Shroff, who were arrested yesterday, were not granted bail.

It is alleged that one Bhagavan Padhi had a deposit of nearly Rs. 12,000 in the Imperial Bank and this amount was withdrawn by forging the signature of Bhagavan Padhi in letters purporting to have been written by him authorising the Bank to pay certain sums from time to time to certain persons.

* * *

We thought the Imperial Bank was impregnable, a steel fortress of stability! Evidently it too has got clay feet! Ed.

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RETROCESSION OF BANGALORE

The proposed terms of the retrocession of Bangalore make amusing reading!

We must inform our readers that the Cantonment was established in 1809 on the removal of the British Garrison from Seringapatam, the head-quarters however being at first in the City Fort. In 1881, at the time of the Rendition, the Cantonment or "Assigned tract" was retained under the Resident, who was to administer the tract, and remit its surplus income to the Mysore Government. Its area is about the same as that of the City, its population much less than the latter, possibly less than that of Mysore City also.

Times having changed, the question of the reversion of the area to Mysore has engaged public attention for some time past, and certain interested bodies in the Cantonment have sought to make the reversion conditional on the grant of certain special rights and privileges which other permanent subjects of the State do not enjoy.

We have said that in population the Cantonment is possibly smaller than Mysore, and certainly smaller than the City, though in area it may be equal to the City. What is proposed is to return three-fourths of the territory to Mysore administration, and retain one-fourth under the Resident.

The "gain" to Mysore from its reversion is stated to be an annual loss of some 2 lakhs of rupees!

Nevertheless the spokesmen of the Cantonment are pleased to demand that they should be given 9 seats in the Representative Assembly and 3 seats in the Legislative Council, that they should have a Collector and District Magistrate borrowed from Madras, that their educational institution should remain linked with Madras, and that they should have their own Courts!

It is like the case of a daughter who had gone to her husband's house, and when she is about to be divorced, trying to dictate conditions for her return to her father's house! It is not as though she were bringing him wealth like an American divorcee. On the other hand she comes as a liability. And yet she dictates terms on the fulfilment of which her return is conditional!

When Bangalore and Mysore have got only 3 seats in the Representative Assembly and one seat each in the Legislative Council, the Cantonment spokesmen want thrice as many seats as either of them in both the bodies. By what right, by what deluded reasoning, they claim it, we cannot see. While they are about it why not they ask for some Titles and Certificates also, say 10 Titles and 50 Certificates of merit annually!

As a matter of right they can claim nothing more than what the two other cities have been given, unless they admit that it requires three men from Cantonment to do what one man from Bangalore or Mysore can do! One should be ashamed to admit any such thing.

Nor can Government undertake to grant them more seats than have been given to the other two cities. It is an absurd claim, and it would be madness to comply with it. Nor again does the demand for a Madras official to administer the area bear scrutiny. If they think so low of Mysore officials and distrust them, and believe that any white or black Madrasee is preferable to them, mere self-respect should tell us not to negotiate with them any further. Those who treat us with contempt deserve to be treated only with contempt. We can get along very well without them.

If it were a case of a new territory or town like Coorg, or Bhatkal, or Bellary, coming under the State administration, we can understand its trying to extract impossible conditions. But the Cantonment was a State area temporarily handed to British authorities for military purposes; and now, circumstances having changed, proposed to be given back to the State. It is therefore a strange mentality which seeks to extract special terms as the

price of that transfer. And while men are clamouring for non-official Presidents of public institutions everywhere, that the Cantonment spokesmen should seek a bureaucratic civilian from an alien administration to preside over their Council, shows that something is wrong with their mental equipment.

As the public of the area have been given freedom to express opinions in the matter, our Government need not treat it as a Reserved subject, and preclude expression of public opinion. The Legislature should consider the matter, and decide on the merits of the terms proposed. That a small City of a population of a lakh and odd should seek 9 seats in the Assembly and 3 seats in the Council is something more than ludicrous. Government can no more grant them without granting similar rights to the other cities also.

And by undertaking to place the area under a Madras official, vested with practically independent control, Government would be openly confessing their own and their officers' inferiority. Rather than that they might leave things as they are. And things will not long remain as they are. Time will come when the demand for retrocession will come from the Cantonment people themselves, and that under normal terms. We need not try to hasten the day, and sell our honour for a mess of pottage!

Editor.

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ness of the urban population, the well-known domestic virtues and religious-mindedness of our people and the safeguards of the caste system, the problem of commercialised vice in the country could not be a serious one. But the informed social worker knew that this belief was not fully justified. To dispel popular complacency in this respect was a difficult part of the work of the Association. He expressed the hope that the Association would receive the response it deserved and carry on its useful work.

With a vote of thanks proposed by Dewan Bahadur K. Mathan, the meeting terminated.

* * *

We reserve comments. Ed.

SOCIAL WELFARE WORK IN BANGALORE

BANGALORE.

Presiding over the Annual Meeting of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, expressed the hope that the appeal of the Association for help would receive a more generous response from the public and the local bodies.

Mr. S. Abdul Wajid, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Association, welcomed the Dewan and others present, and felicitated Mr. Madhava Rao on his elevation to the high office of Dewan and expressed the hope that his stewardship of the State would be long and memorable.

Mr. K. Revanna, Secretary of the Association presented the annual report, which stated that several brothels in Bangalore City were closed during the year as a result of the efforts of the Association. The Mysore Suppression of Brothels and Immoral Traffic Act had begun to exercise a wholesome effect on keepers of brothels, and the Association desired to refer to an important addition required in the Act. Living on the earnings of prostitution by third parties had been penalised in Madras and a similar provision should be incorporated in the Mysore Act. The report referred to the work done by the Abhaya Ashram run by the Association and appealed to the public and local bodies for help financially.

Mrs. V. T. Lakshmi, social welfare worker of Madras, addressing the gathering on moral welfare work, pointed out that rescued girls should be given every opportunity to move in society and not be looked upon with disdain. Teaching and nursing were two professions in which these rescued girls should be given encouragement.

Dr. D. S. Puttanna delivered an address on 'Personal Hygiene.'

The Dewan said that the objects at which the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene was aiming, should make a special appeal to the public. The Government, he said, would consider their suggestion regarding extension of the Mysore Act for suppression of immoral traffic on the lines of the Madras Act VI of 1938, and he added the Government also appreciated their anxiety that the punishment of persons convicted under the Act should be commensurate with the gravity of the offence committed.

Many people did not realise the extent of the evil that was to be combated. There was a fairly widespread belief that owing to the relative small-

MUSSOLINI THE FATHER

An American paper gives the following account of the death of Bruno Mussolini in a flying accident, and the funeral attended by Signor Mussolini:

One morning Benito Mussolini, whose soul has lately been scarred almost beyond recognition, was at his desk in Rome. A few minutes after 10 o'clock, the telephone rang. "San Giusto Airport, Pisa. An accident. Three killed, five injured." And one of the dead was Benito Mussolini's second boy, Bruno, the brown one, the good flyer.

With Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Francesco Pricolo, Benito Mussolini flew at once to Pisa. There, being Duce as well as padre, he marched in stately review, head high, past the pilots and ground crews of San Giusto.

REAL FLYER

Then he went to Santa Chara Hospital, and stood a long time beside the boy's body!

He remembered the day when he pinned gold wings on Bruno's chest to make him, at 17, the youngest pilot in Italy. He remembered what the generals said about how the lad acquitted himself on bombing missions in Ethiopia. He remembered the speed records, the flight to Brazil. He remembered the necessity of recalling him from the Balearics during the Spanish War, because the Reds seemed to be gunning for the boy. This son was the real flyer!

ALL-NIGHT VIGIL

Benito Mussolini left the hospital, went back to the field, and stared for a time at the scene of the crash. Then he returned to the bedside and sat there all night. The others quietly joined: Donna Rachele, his own wife, a strong woman who opposed Bruno's flying; Vittorio, not such a good flyer, only a lieutenant, while Bruno, nearly two years his junior, was a captain; Edda Ciano, the girl, who had very nearly been killed by British flyers during the Balkan fight. Bruno's pretty wife Gina was also there. The other Mussolinis—Anna, Maria and Romano, mere school children—were too young for this vigil.

PAPAL BLESSINGS

In the morning came the Pope's blessing on this agnostic ex-Socialist father and a brief service for the son. Then the coffin, buried *pro tempore* under wreaths, was taken off to be buried under the soil of Predappio, on one of the little Romagna hillsides where the Mussolinis, the makers of muslin, had always lived. But before he left Pisa, Benito Mussolini went to talk with the five injured survivors. One unwittingly asked how Bruno was.

"Bruno," said Benito Mussolini who hates death, "is quite well. He is no longer in danger!"

* * *

Does it remind our readers of Arjuna and Abhimanyu, or, shall we say, Ravana and Indrajit?

Ed.

PANDIT CHANDRABHAN SINGH HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The above Committee informs the public that subscriptions to the above fund have already been promised to the extent of Rs. 1600, out of which about Rs. 1000 have already been collected. The Committee hope that the public of the State who have benefited by Pandit Chandrabhan Singh's treatment or know his good work, will contribute liberally, considering its philanthropic nature.

We endorse the appeal of the Committee, and hope that the response will be worthy of the people of Mysore.

Ed.

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RETROCESSION OF BANGALORE

PROPOSED TERMS

(1) The area proposed to be transferred to the Mysore Durbar will consist of about three-quarters of the present Bangalore Cantonment area, while the part retained as a British Cantonment area will consist of "islands"—being the land now occupied in various spots by the military offices and barracks, two-thirds of the South Parade maidan, and Ulsoor.

(2) The proposed retroceded area will have its own Municipality as now, and the present arrangement of a Collector, who will also act as a District Magistrate and ex-officio Chairman of the Municipality (an I.C.S. official lent by the Madras Government) will continue for at least five years or until public demand (properly voiced) results in bringing about a separation of functions and in arrangements for an elected President, or Mayor, for the area.

(3) Representation will be granted to the citizens and the Trade of the area on the Mysore Legislative Bodies. It is understood this will consist of (a) on the Mysore Representative Assembly: four seats for the general costituency, one for Trade, one for Muslims, one for Europeans and anglo-Indians, one for Depressed Classes and one for Indian Christians; (b) on the Mysore Legislative Council: one seat for the general constituency, one for Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Depressed Classes, and Indian Christians combined, and one for Trade. (The seats for Trade will be portioned out among the two old-established trades bodies of the Station—the Bangalore Trades Association and Bangalore Commercial Association).

(4) When Federation comes into being, the citizens of the area will have as satisfactory representation as the rest of Mysore State subjects on any Federal Legislatures, which may be set up.

(5) The civil liberties of the said citizens will be the same as of the other subjects of Mysore State.

(6) The taxation in the retroceded area will be the same as in Bangalore City and in Mysore State

(7) The Educational institutions of the area will be linked up with the Mysore State Education Service, except for the St. Joseph's College (which may remain linked up with Madras), but the students of that College will be accepted for the Mysore State Service. Grants will be continued, the present standard of education will remain, and the Cambridge Examinations will continue to be held in Bangalore.

(8) The Mysore State will validate all the Acts of the British Government in connection with the area to be retroceded, including leases, and contracts of the Secretary of State for India, property, company regulations, etc.

(9) The local octroi matters will be decided on by the two Municipalities concerned jointly, and they will decide about the proposal for the abolition of octroi between the two Municipal areas. No new octroi arrangements will be created for the area to be allotted for the military.

(10) The matter of *ex parte* decrees cannot be gone into at present. This is a question that will need to be settled by the Federal Court when the Federal Scheme comes into being.

(11) The proposed new Cantonment area (containing the military and about 3,000 civil population) will be governed by a Cantonment Board, its President being the Commanding Officer. There will be an equal number of elected and nominated members on the Board. The franchise will be as per the New Addition of Cantonment Act (No. 2 of 1924 as amended by Order 24 of 1936). The area will be under the Political Department of the British Resident. If any ejection laws are applied to the residents, an appeal can be made to the Commanding Officer and the British Resident.

(12) The present shopping centres will be open to troops as now.

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CASUALTIES IN MDIDLE EAST

AUSTRALIAN MINISTER'S FIGURES

Canberra.

The total casualties of the Australian Imperial Forces up to September 25 were 13,143, the Army Minister, Mr. Forde, announces.

The total casualties for Britain and all the Dominions in the Middle East, Greece, Crete, Syria and Abyssinia, were 4,370 killed, 15,184 wounded, 28,477 missing and 6,580 prisoners.

The United Kingdom casualties on land in this theatre were 29,176 and combined Dominion casualties 25,935. Other British casualties in other theatres were 70,000.

The Royal Navy casualties were 22,500 and the R. A. F. 8,500.

The United Kingdom troops engaged were five times the Dominion totals. "The figures prove the fiction of the lying attempts by Italy and Germany to insinuate that the Mother Country is not bearing its full share of the war," said Mr. Forde.

SOVIET SACRIFICES

LORD STRABOLGI'S CALL FOR MILITARY ACTION

London.

Lord Strabolgi, Labour peer, told the Fabian Society in London that we were not sharing the sacrifices of the Russians in the common strggle.

"Why are we not making a series of raids along the immense coastline in German occupation?" he asked. "Why do we not attack in North Africa? Why are troops and aircraft not being sent through the Caucasus to check the German drive in the Ukraine? Why have we not rainforced our air wing in North Russia?" Lord Strabolgi said that while we might have been over-rash in Norway. Belgium, and Greece, we were now going to the other extreme of over-caution.

Mr. E. Shinwell, M.P., in a speach at Warrington, said that full co-operation between Great Britain. the United States and Soviet Russia must in the end prove invincible, but in this formidable Allied combination we must pull our full weight. He declared that everyone of the Government's critics was hundred per cent behind the war effort. Not one desired to disturb the essential unity of the nation. But, that did not mean that the Government, based on party representation, had the last word in national unity, or that criticism of that Government was calculated to weaken the war effort.—Reuter.

BEGGAR PROBLEM IN BANGALORE

BANGALORE.

Presiding over the annual meeting of the Asaktha Poshaka Sabha, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, Minister for Law, referred to the beggar nuisance in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore and said that there was considerable agitation about the increase of this problem in these cities. The Mysore Juveniles Act of 1939, punished anyone who for his own profit, caused, or being the parent or guardian allowed any child or any person, to beg in any public place. Unfortunately, this Act had not yet been applied to any area. The Police Act also had certain provisions for punishing begging under such circumstances. The Municipal Act laid on Municipal councils certain duties in respect of destitutes and infirm. But, the problem of abled-bodied beggars had not yet been tackled in a thorough-going manner. Any solution of that problem involved the provision of workhouses for able-bodied beggars, and an organisation which would befriend them and help them back to normal economic life.

The Government, Mr. Ramanathan contiuing said, were very keen on finding a solution of this problem in the two cities of Bangalore and Mysore. Obviously, any work in the city of Bangalore would have to be in co-operation with the people of the Civil and Military Station. The appointment of a committee for devising practical steps and suggesting necessary legislation was imminent. He would appeal to all to help that Committee with suggestions.

In conclusion, Mr. Ramanathan observed that he was glad to notice that the activities of the Sabha included an orphanage for boys and would soon include an orphanage for girls. He hoped they would arrange and develop their work so as to be able to receive unfortunate children left adrift in this world. Bangalore would then deserve the name of a model city.

BRITISH SUPPLIES TO RUSSIA

"FIGURES STAGGERING"

London.

Sir John Anderson, Lord President of the Council, speaking in London said that the Government's plans regarding man-power would involve further inconveniences and even hardship for civilian population.

Stressing the impossibility of publishing plans without giving information to Germany, Sir John Anderson, said, "If I were to tell you what we have undertaken to supply to Russia and what we are going to send her without fail, you would be amazed! If I could state this in terms of man-power you would find the figures staggering!"

It would be a tight squeeze, Sir John Anderson said, as fighting and war industries required more and more of supplies normally available for civilians, but civilians had shown that they could face it.

* * *

Why not tell them, and let them be amazed? Why not give them the figures and let them be staggered? There is no harm in being amazed so long as there is no heart-failure! And there is no harm in staggering so long as one does not fall down! Ed.

THE V CAMPAIGN

IN PARLIAMENT

Speaking in Parliament Mr. Ernest Thurtle, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information neatly stated that the "V" campaign was "a sort of 'Lift up your hearts' movement for the Nazi-oppressed countries."

And what does friend *Punch* say?

"Do you know what "V" means in the International Code? There are certain single letter signals in the International Code which all the ships and all the ports of all the nations know. "Y"—I am carrying mails. "P"—I am going to sea. "U"—You are standing into danger. "O"—Man over-board. And so on. Some of them you can send by sound as well as by flag and flash. "V" is one of them. And "V" means "*I require assistance.*"

* * *

So Colonel Brittain's "V Campaign" is probably based on the Children's Book of Alphabet. Ed.

SHORTAGE OF YARN

Bombay.

"The case of the handloom weaver is becoming desperate," says Sir Victor Sassoon, in a statement to the Press.

"We can help by trying to divert some of the Army demands to handloom, and this is being done. We can help by stimulating the export of handloom cloth instead of yarn by educating the weaver to supply cloth which is wanted and not just what he has been used to weave, and there is an unexplored field in that direction. But the problem will not be solved in this way, for the basic trouble is that the stoppage of imports has caused a definite shortage of yarn for handlooms, and the fact that Government orders are for specifications which need more spindles per loom reduces the yarn surplus of mills and so accentuates this shortage."

Sir Victor Sassoon recalls how in one weaving centre he visited, he found less than thousand workers only, out of the five or six thousand at work, because they had no yarn and could not get any. He suggests that attempts should be made to feed handlooms with handspun yarn.

* * * *

When imports are free, Sir Victor and his fellow-bosses set up frantic cries for their control and prevention, as though they are able to meet all the country's demands! And when imports are stopped, and a section of the country is suffering, they make specious and unconvincing excuses! Those who want the country and the Government to back them in their own troubles ought to be more ready than this to help others in trouble!

Ed.

ADULT LITERACY

WHOSE FAD IS THIS?

Bangalore.

As a result of discussions between the Minister for Education and those interested in Adult Literacy work, a Central Council for the whole State to carry on adult literacy work, will be constituted. The Government, it is understood, will give a contribution of about Rs. 30,000.

At present, adult literacy work is being carried on in Bangalore and Mysore Cities by different agencies. The work of these agencies will be co-ordinated.

How far the Scout movement can help in this important work of adult literacy will be investigated.

* * *

Comments are reserved. Ed.

COMMUNAL AMITY

Sylhet.

"I have been born in India—I shall live in, and I wish to die in India," thus declared Hajrat Maulana Syed Hussain Ahmed Madani, President of the All-India Jamiat ul-Ulema, addressing a Public Meeting, at Sylhet.

The Maulana urged all to maintain communal harmony at the present time for the achievement of India's freedom. He asked all to be liberal in thought and ideas and remarked that it was not possible for any community to live in India without the help or co-operation of the other communities!

TO BE ANOTHER INDIA?

"When Mr. Churchill proposed to M. Reynaud the magnificent idea of an Anglo-France, the offer was politely but firmly refused. Why? It is said that it came too late. Hardly true. I was in France at the time, and can say that the matter was discussed in the *Action Francaise* for quite a long time, and was frowned upon. This, and the attitude of the French people generally, puzzled me. Then I met someone who had the ear of authority and asked him why the British offer was being turned down. "You are asking me!" he cried "Does Britain wish us to be another India? No, thank you."..

—*Ranjee Shahani in* Great Britain and the East.

"DISSOLVE THE PRESENT COUNCIL"

COCHIN DEMAND

DEPUTATION WAITS ON COCHIN DEWAN

Trichur

"A deputation of the leading citizens of the State, consisting of 20 members and representing all communities and interests, waited in deputation on Mr. A. F. W. Dixon, the Dewan, at Trichur and submitted a memorial urging the dissolution of the present legislative council on the ground that it has betrayed the confidence of the voters, and also protesting against the grant of extension of the period of the present Council." Says a report.

* * *

We hope Mr. Dixon will not be mis-led by the timid voices which may advise him to extend the term of the present Council. He would evince his own statesmanship as also win the confidence of the public by letting the elections take place as per law. Ed.

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM GIRL STUDENTS' CONFERENCE

New Delhi.

The first session of the All-India Muslim Girl Students' Conference will be held here in the first week of February Begum Aizaz Rasul, Deputy President, United Provinces Legislative Council, will preside. Miss Jinnah will inaugurate the Conference. A Reception Committee has been set up with Dr. (Begum) Ikramullah as Chairwoman.

* * *

This is refreshing news! We are not aware that Hindu girl-students have got a similar organisation. They are still content to hob-nob with boys' organisations. Muslim girls have taken a step forward and staged a revolt against boys. Or, is it a step forward, or backward, and due to the ghosha system? We however do not consider the ghosha system an evil. Ed.

HUNDRED THOUSAND PLANES A YEAR

AMERICA'S PLANS

New York.

The production goal of 75,000, and possibly 100,000 planes annually by 1943 is being planned by the United States Government, according to authoritative sources in Washington, quoted by the *Journal of Commerce*.

This involves the stepping up of bomber production to 25,000, the paper says, of which about 8,000 would be "Flying Fortresses."

"These objectives are far above the present monthly output of 2,000 planes and President Roosevelt's previous goal of 50,000 planes a year."

* * *

May we call the attention of the Big Brothers, Messrs. Walchand and Lalchand to the above? What is the annual or monthly production of the much-advertised "India's Pioneer Air-plane Factory?" Or is it still in search of workmen? Ed.

The Rationalist.

Monday 10-11-1941.

THE OLDEST PROFESSION

Last week two Bangalore organisations, the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, and the Asaktha Poshaka Sabha, got two Members of Government, the Dewan and the Member for Law, to visit them and make important statements regarding the Brothel Act and prevention of Beggary.

We are surprised that the good people who are running these two institutions should have sought to rush Government into punitive legislation in order to replenish dwindling funds or bolster up public support!

Legislation, we think, should be slow, circumspect, and comprehensive. It should be aimed at the evil, the vicious, and the defiant; and not against the weak, the infirm, and the unprotected. It should not be carried away by catch-words, nor be allowed to be made a tool of by demogogues!

But the bane of our society is that the Legislative Code has become a "Visitors' Book" in which every half-educated democrat who has been thrust into the Legislature can add his own piece of enactment, whatever his own personal sincerity, and whatever the soundness of the enactment! Today a man may sponsor a legislation against what he calls "Immoral traffic," and tomorrow he may himself walk the streets casting lewd glances at passers by who may be clothed in attractive colours!

Legislation, like medicine, should be effective and curative, not, simply palliative, or provocative. It is a saying of Solon, one of the Seven Wise Men of Greece, that "Laws are like cobwebs, that entangle the weak, but are broken by the strong!"

An Ideal State, according to another Great Grecian, is that in which "Citizens fear blame more than punishment." And Goethe asks, "What Government is best," and replies "That which teaches us to govern ourselves! The best Government is that which makes itself superfluous!"

But our wise men invoke laws against children, against women, against the out-cast, the maimed, feeble, and heart-broken, against the direct offenders, against those that incite them, and against those who gave them birth!

Is society made moral by raiding some suspected house overnight, and hauling so-called unchaste women before a Magistrate to face the lewd glances of the world at large, and be convicted or acquitted according to the chances of the uncertain judicial dispensation which now prevails?

Will beggary be wiped out by imposing a crushing fine on the unfortunate being who has to beg his daily bread, or by putting him in prison for short or long? So long as Governments do not see that persons who cannot earn a living are provided with food and raiment at State cost, while at the same time they prevent him from ending his life by committing suicide, how can beggary be effaced by the pious hopes of elderly well-wishers, or the cheap laws of enthusiastic Governments, or the loud agitations of mean and uncharitable public men or women?

And after all, is begging for alms the only sort of beggary? Are not the so-called respectable men and women who beg for subscriptions, for nominations, for jobs for themselves or theirs, and for titles, beggars? Are they any the less a nuisance because they happen to be genteel? Laws meant to destroy the one should comprehend all the others also. Otherwise Solon's dictum, "Laws are like cob-webs, that entangle the weak, but are broken by the strong," would be true to-day as ever before!

And is immorality of the brothel type the only kind of immorality in Society? If not what is its percentage to the general immorality of society? Is our scholastic, industrial, commercial, social, and official life very moral? Judge Lindsay has given us an idea of the West! A Director of Education nearer home is said to have issued a circular

about illegitimate children of school mistresses! In other walks of life also things are no better. And yet the removal of a stray brothel is supposed to cure Society of immorality, and make it very moral!

Social evils are to some extent the necessary outcome of social evolution. To remove them, you must ascertain their causes. The right way is to ascertain and efface the causes, and then perhaps the evils will disappear. Otherwise, if the causes remain, and the evils alone are treated, the evil which is removed might appear again in other shapes and forms! . . . . . .

The question of Social Morality is a large one and Society and Governments should become very religious before they can solve it to any extent. The question of brothels, however, is simpler. Legislation to suppress them should be enforced as a compaign, and not be left to the occasional fancy or prejudice of a police official. They must all be rounded up and effaced once for all. But alongside Government should create a Central Institution in order to provide a home for the reclaimed. It should not be left to the trivial efforts of a few non-officials, who can spare neither the funds nor the energy to run it on a gigantic scale. It is as much the duty of the Government as the erection of Jails, or maintenance of the Police or the Military.

The same applies to the problem of beggars also. Government should solve the question of employment for the able-bodied, and maintenance of the disabled, as part of any preventive legislation.

Meanwhile clamorous agitators, titled men's wives, big officials' wives, and editors' wives, who are shouting against beggars to protect their own meanness, should be asked to shut up, and keep a few pies' change for beggars when they visit public places. The spirit of individual social charity is a proud social asset; and the men and women who renounce it, or denounce it, do not know the elements which make men men, and something should be said to be wrong with their hearts as well as their brains!

Editor.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"In my study of history I fancy I detect a rhythmic pulmonary process in which each breath takes about 500 years. For instance in 490 B.C. the individualistic Greeks defeated the Persians and repulsed their vast denationalising bureaucracy. About 5 centuries later the Roman Empire was beginning, and individualism was fading under imperialism. Within another five centuries the Roman Empire was collapsing under the onset of the barbarians, and handed on its mission to the Catholic Church. By the year A.D. 1000 another epoch was beginning during which the Catholic Church tried to evolve the dualism of spiritual and temporal rule in the conception of the Papacy and the Empire. Some five centuries later the combination of the Renaissance with the revived influence of individualistic Greece, the discovery of the New World, and the Protestant Reformation, brought about the individualistic epoch, in the last century of which we are now living. The motive force for the change which will decide the next five centuries has been the conquest of individualistic man by the machine he has invented. What are dangerous toys for individuals, will be conquered in their turn again by socialistic man. That I prophecy with complete assurance, but I am not able to foresee what will be the problems of two people looking out at the Tyrrhenian Sea in the year 2416."

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BRITISHERS TAKE TO VEGETARIANISM

Ever since the war began, vegetarianism has gained great support in Britain, writes Harry Gregson in *Everybody's*.

I have been talking to Mr. Wyatt, the hale and hearty veteran Secretary of the London Vegetarian Society, a great deal recently, he says. In one of London's largest vegetarian restaurants where pilot-officers, mine-sweepers, captains and soldiers enjoy carrot parmentiere, beet-root a la creme and other vegetarian delicacies in company with Government officials and London clerks and typists. He gave me the following facts:

BLESSING IN DISGUISE

Meat rationing is a blessing in disguise. In cheese, egg, peas, beans, nuts and lentils can be found all that the most vigorous manual worker requires.

Eight million tons of shipping space are needed each year to bring wheet alone to these shores. The best part of that could be grown here on land at present wastefully used for grazing. In war time, it is suicidal to continue the extravagant and dangerous meat diet we have foolishly allowed ourselves to adopt from the good times of peace.

Meat becomes ever scarcer. What can the housewife put in its place?

We can find substitutes in many vegetables.

RICH IN VITAMINS

The protein of a lamb chop, for instance, is also yielded by an egg, or 1¼ ozs. of cheese, or a glass of milk. We can find in spinach. or string beans, or in egg yolk or two slices of whole wheat bread the same amount of iron as is found in the lamb chop. Yeast, by the way, is a rich source of Vitamin G.

Supposing the housewife is unable to get her meat ration from the butcher, or chooses to forego it, what can she serve the family with for dinner instead? Split pea soup, made up of one pint split peas, two quart of water, one onion (if obtainable), one carrot, seasoning and fresh mint with a little marmite, will satisfactorily replace a meat soup.

WAR-TIME MENUS

For the main dish, lentil roast can be quite well substituted. Its contents are one half pound of red lentils, two cupfuls wholemeal breadcrumbs, one tablespoonful tomato sauce, seasoning.

There are dozens of war-time menus like these which the Ministry of Food or London Vegetarian Society will supply.

The successful vegetarian house-wife must, of course, know the essentials of healthy eating. To avoid colds, infections and general lassitude we all need Vitamins A and C. Three and a half ounces of raw carrot, green leaves (cabbage, green salad) will supply a whole day's ration of Vitamin A. Turnips and green salad supply Vitamin C.

CARROT JUICE IS HELPFUL

Vitamin D (bottled sunshine) comes to us naturally through our skins in summer. It promotes growth and prevents dental decay. Most good margarine contains Vitamin D, and carrot juice is also most helpful.

Vitamin B provides energy. Breuer's yeast, the wheat germ, and hazel nuts are the most prolific sources. Fresh bran, wholemeal bread and fresh or dried whole peas are also good.

Broadly speaking, we can obtain sufficient nourishment for a day from a quarter of a pound of shelled nuts, lentils, or cheese; three quarters of a pound of wholemeal bread, and two pound of fruits and vegetables.

FOR STRENGTH

But shortage of fresh fruit need not have a harmful effect on the nation's diet. The same vitamins can be obtained from green vegetables. The kitchen gardens can provide most of the essentials for a varied, satisfying vegetarian diet of this kind.

Socrates, Plato, Plutarch, Ovid, Buddha, Leonardo da Vinci, Newton, Shelly, and Tolstoy were vegetarians. The people with the greatest reputed physical strength, like the Maltese and Turkish dock-workers, keep up their strength on a handful of figs and a few nuts. The Bacon family of England, with more than thirty national wrestling championships to their credit, were vegetarians. The diet of the Punjab, from whence our Sikh troops derive, is wheat bread, whole meal, pulses, vegetables, milk and some fruit!

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COMMUNAL DISHARMONY

SIR SIVASWAMI AIYAR'S DIAGNOSIS

MADRAS.

Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar, addressing a meeting of the Madras Rotary Club on "Communal Disharmony" observed that the creation of separate electorates had led to the widening of the cleavage between Hindus and Muslims. It might be suggested that the abolition of the separate electorates was "a heroic remedy" which might involve the government in unpopularity but, as "authors of the mischief" the Government had a responsibility for undoing it and they must take courage into their hands and carry out this duty at any cost.

After referring to the causes which generally led to outbreaks of trouble between the Hindus and Muslims such as music before mosques and killing of cows, he said that specific legislation or conditions of licence should provide against cow-slaughter taking place in such a manner as to offend public sentiment. In regard to the other cause, a distinction should be made between existing and new places of worship, every new place being regarded as a potential source of communal friction. In regard to the existing places, restrictions might be imposed on the playing of music within certain distances or during certain hours.

Generally, the communal outbreaks nowadays had no connection with religious disputes and in several cases were attributable merely to feelings of ill-will, fear or hatred promoted by persons behind the scenes, the violent acts being mostly committed by rowdies. Among the members of the Hindu community, there was a general feeling that they did not get sufficient protection from the Government. The belief was also widely prevalent that the Government were not interested in helping the reconciliation of the major communities for the reason that such misunderstandings and quarrels ensured their position as arbitrators.

After referring to the circumstances in which separate electorates were created in 1909, and the part they played in keeping up Hindu-Muslim cleavage, the speaker said that though the Government could not be regarded as responsible for the origin of communal differences, the system of separate electorates and its implications and incidents had tended to keep alive and accentuate differences, a result which so long as it did not produce violent breaches of the peace, was supposed to be not unwelcome to the Government.

Discussing possible remedies, Sir Sivaswami Aiyar said that creation of joint electorates with reservation of seats in place of separate electorates, wider diffusion of literacy and education, spread of a common language and script, elimination of linguistic controversies about Hindi and Urdu, encouragement of the study of classical languages and scriptures of the communities, were among the expedients that were suggested. But some of these, he added, were long-term remedies.

Dr. C. R. REDDY ON UNEMPLOYMENT

In an Address before an Educational Conference in Bombay Dr. Reddy was of the opinion that the problem of the educated unemployed could never be solved unless there was a general industrial and material progress in the country.

Dr. Reddy, dwelt at length on the profound influence exerted by air power and "total" wars on education. Air power abolished all frontiers and made mountains and land barriers ineffective. The navy, too, suffered from similar severe limitations. Total wars were rendered possible by the amazing development of the air arm. Destruction of the opposing armies, civilian populations and the material resources of the country,—these constituted the real bases of total wars. Neither women and children nor the industries of a country were safe from the bomb. "These factors," Dr. Reddy said, "have immensely increased the responsibilities of individual citizens. Everyone, whether a city dweller or a villager must learn to defend himself and must learn to make things necessary for his defence. Our educational problem is, therefore, very closely related to the problem of the industrial expansion of our country. Without it our education will have to be something abstract and unreal, and without it the problem of unemployment can never be solved. I appeal to the British statesmen to appreciate these facts and revise their present attitude towards India."

JAPAN'S TERMS TO AMERICA

Japan has now published terms which she expects from the United States as prize for peace in the Pacific.

The Japan Times and Advertiser makes these demands in the course of an article.

1. No more military and economic help for the Chinese Government.
2. Complete freedom for Japan to deal with China.
3. No more encirclement of Japan with military, naval or air bases
4. Acknowledgment of Japan's sphere in East Asia.
5. Chinese and Japanese assets to be unfrozen.
6. Trade treaties to be restored.
7. Recognition of Manchukuo.

The paper concludes by stating that Japan is determined to act boldly. America may take a right turn in the road or face the alternative.

* * *

We commend the modesty of the "Japan Times" Editor! Ed.

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THE MYSORE STATE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

At the Conference held last week at Bangalore under the Presidentship of Sri Rajakumari Lilavathi, the following conclusions were arrived at:—

The Conference urged the Government "to appoint only lady teachers in all primary schools in preference to men, as women are more suited to handling children of primary school age."

The Conference requested Government to do something about educating the blind girls in the State; to increase the accommodation at the Maharani's High School, Mysore City; and to improve the condition of the Girls' Hostel; and to give milk or some nourishing food in the afternoon for the children in primary schools in some selected areas, as an experiment.

The Conference resolved to establish, with the aid of the Government, a Maternity Home near Yediyur (Bangalore Taluk).

There was much discussion on the resolution requesting the authorities concerned "to enforce that those in management of nursery schools do undergo a training in the Montessori course."

After a heated discussion, the resolution was negatived, 13 voting for it and 15 against.

The Conference resolved to request the Government to give at least two seats for women in the local Municipalities and District Boards.

Rajakumari Leilavathi Devi then moved the following resolution: 'Women in Mysore should have a right to enter the Executive Council and they should be nominated as Ministers. At least two women must have a place in the Council of Ministers to represent the cause of women.' In so doing, the Rajakumari observed that Mysore had earned the reputation of being a 'model' state, and in the matter of allowing women to find a place in the Council of Ministers, it should set an example. Women had proved their ability for sustained and intelligent work in several walks of life and if the civil service was open to them, the speaker had no doubt, several ladies would pass the Civil Service examination with distinction!

* * *

No doubt about that! The resolutions are perfectly sound, and are no laughing matter. We congratulate the ladies on the steadiness and regularity of their annual conclaves. In the long run their persistence will tell! Ed.

NAWAB OF CHHATARI IN GULBARGA

HYDERABAD (Dn.)

"In the gradual progress of every country and nation, old traditions play an important part, and in the monuments of these bye-gone days, you have been left a legacy of unity and concord which it should be your duty to protect. For, without these no country can attain an honourable future," observed the hon. the Nawab of Chhatari, President of H. E. H. the Nizam's Executive Council, replying to addresses presented by the Municipality and the District Board of Gulbarga.

The Nawab said that it gave him great pleasure to see their flourishing city and the work that the Local Fund and Municipality had done in providing civil amenities. The construction of the guni on hygienic lines and the benefits that the agriculturists and traders had derived from promulgation of Market Laws were especially satisfactory. His Exalted Highness's interest in the welfare of his beloved subjects and the benefits that he had showered on them were without a parallel. It was his belief that every particle of these Dominions reflected that royal munificence which had made the State of Hyderabad unique all ever India.

After referring to the needs and difficulties of the people of Gulbarga, the Nawab stressed on the need for construction of dwellings for the workers upon hygienic lines, especially in a town like theirs, which occupied an important industrial position in the Dominions. "Any government help and support that might be necessary for the attainment of this object would be considered carefully as soon as the necessity for it was brought to Government's notice through the Department concerned, and all help within the bounds of reason would be extended."

YARN PRICE

MYSORE COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS

Bangalore.

The Committee, appointed by the Government of Mysore to go into the question of yarn price control, under the presidency of the Director of Industrial Planning, considered the measures necessary to ensure regular supply of yarn at reasonable prices to the weavers engaged in the handloom industry in the State.

The committee was of the opinion that the increase in the price of yarn in recent months, in some cases by about 50 per cent, had no reference or relation to the price of cotton, that the local merchants did not seem to be involved in the speculative rise in the price of yarn, but that outsiders coming into the State were mostly responsible for the undue influence of the price of yarn. The committee felt that the speculative activity of outside yarn dealers in Mysore had influenced the local mills to take advantage of the situation to make more profits. It was the unanimous view of the committee that the control of yarn prices in Mysore alone was rather difficult, but that the same should be done on an All-India basis.

It was also the view of the committee that the existing mills by working double shift could meet the needs of handlooms at reasonable prices, taking into account the prices obtaining owing to war conditions. The members felt that the co-operation of the Mills was essential to bring about an improvement in the situation.

The Director of Industrial Planning and the Secretary to the Committee will be interviewing the mill-owners and see the conditions for themselves, after which it is likely there will be a meeting of the mill-owners and others interested in the handloom industry.

* * *

Well, that is that! The Director of Industrial Planning,—mark the name, Reader,—and his Committee of local yarn-merchants are satisfied, and they expect the Government and the people to be satisfied, let alone the poor weavers! If a Committee is packed with local yarn dealers who have raised the yarn prices, what other result could you expect? Who are the outside yarn-dealers who have come here and raised the prices? And if the honest local yarn-dealers kept the prices low, how could outsiders raise them? That an officer who is given the big name of "Director of Industrial Planning" should be a party to such inane and helpless conclusions, is a thousand pities! Ed.

"INSULT TO THE PROPHET"

IN U. S. PAPER

NEW DELHI.

Sir A. H. Ghaznavi had tabled an adjournment motion to discuss "the failure of the Government of India to lodge an effective protest against the statement made in the *Sunday News* of the U. S. A., to the effect that 'the character of the bloodthirsty monster Hitler is to be compared not to Napoleon but to Mohammad, as the latter wanted to subject mankind to the domination of a few individuals and Hitler desires to do the same,' thereby offering a deliberate and gross insult to the memory of the Holy Prophet of Islam, the purest human being that ever lived, bringing the holy faith of Islam into contempt and wounding the dearest and most sacred sentiments of millions of Muslims."

In making a statement on the motion, Mr. Caroe, External Affairs Secretary, felt that the adjournment motion should have been addressed to the management of the newspaper and not to the Government of India or to the House. He was credibly informed that scores of papers of the name of *Sunday News* were published in almost every town in America, and he did not know which of these papers was alleged to have published an article in such extremely bad taste. The best known *Sunday News*, as far as his knowledge of American news-papers went, was in New York and was one of the class known as the tabloid press devoted to sensationalism, that is to say, publishing in either gilded or highly coloured form in small doses various items of sensational news.

It was difficult for the Government to convey any protest when there could be no certainty, as far as he could see, whether the article was in fact ever published. If the Government were to submit even a record of this debate to the authorities in U. S. A. they should at least like to know the exact date on which it was published.

Sir A. H. Ghuznavi: April 27, 1941.

Such publicity as had been given to the article, Mr. Caroe went on, had been given by the adjournment motion. The first time that the Government got to know of the article was through the adjournment motion itself. "Any right-thinking person would condemn sayings or writings of this kind directed against the central figure of any faith. There can be no doubt about that. I feel that, to give publicity to blasphemous articles of that kind, is not to do anybody any great service. Is it desirable to treat seriously publicity in a paper which is not seriously devoted to high thought of any sort? Would it not be dignified to treat it with the silence that it deserved?" The central figures of the faiths were better served by some form of silence. They stood secure and serene above the arena!

* * *

We commend these thoughts! Ed.

WHY SUCH METHODS?

IN THE MYSORE UNIVERSITY

We wish somebody would look into the affairs of the University. Its Educational methods leave much to be desired. Its examination methods are the subject of complaint after complaint, and, as rumour goes, enquiry after enquiry. And its financial methods have had to face and provoke judicial comments recently, and are generally harsh, unethical, and inequitable!

The following is an instance. All students must pay up the class fee soon after they are admitted, irrespective of the fact that one is an applicant for a freeship or scholarship or not. Quite a number of them do get freeship or half-freeship or scholarship.

But the return of the fee paid, which ought to be immediate according to all principles of accountancy, is delayed for months. Even when they have to beg and borrow for making up the examination fees, the class fee amount at their credit is not adjusted or paid back. They are told to wait till next February for the refund of the amount paid in June! And in February the Examinations come, and they have to await the sweet will of the clerk or accountant, or the Principal, for the return of the amount!

Money is cheap to the University people. But the public have to sweat for it. They cannot afford to keep money locked up in the University for months together. It ought to be returned to them without delay. Granting that the University authorities, from the full time clerk to the full time Vice Chancellor, are indifferent about it, what are the audit people doing, the Internal Audit, Local Audit, and External Audit?

We really think that it is very unbecoming that such things should prevail in an organisation which ought to set an example in these matters.!

Ed.

HORRORS OF WAR

LONDON.

A terrible story of German cruelty has been told by an anonymous member of the Royal Marine broad-casting his experiences when Calais fell in May, 1940.

He said that he and others were driven like cattle through Belgian villages, their guards whipping them "whenever they felt like it, just to show us and the Belgians who was the boss." Those who tried to get apples or take bread from friendly Belgians were shot by the nearest German with his Tommy Gun and their bodies left lying in the road! Other guards used the bayonet!

Sometimes the prisoners were made to run through villages holding their hands above their heads while whips cracked all round the column! They were given no food. The Nazis would tell a man who had collapsed to sit on the side of a car as if they were going to give him a lift; then the driver would zigzag up the road so that he fell off and was usually run over by the back wheels! "I never saw anything like this march in my life. They seemed to enjoy all this sort of thing, and some days they killed anything up to ten men more or less in the way of sport!"

When the marines were captured they met well-armed Germans. "They were shooting all the time for sport, and to show off, at anything that happened to be about—cats, dogs, hens, men and women—and hitting them right in the head every time." Everyone was like a killer on his own. The men seemed to be very scared of officers, but they were all free to loot and kill anyone that came across their track!

"They treated old women and children worse than they did us, but I think they treated French colonial troops the worst of the lot—killing them and whipping them like slaves just to hear them shout! These soldiers were all young ones who had come right through France. The older soldiers who had seen the last war were different—less like crafty animals and more human altogether!"

* * *

This is Man, "the noblest of Creation, made in God's own image!"

Ed.

The Rationalist.

Monday 17-11-1941.

ADULT EDUCATION !

It is reported that some one who has the ear of Government has drawn up a grandiose scheme of adult education, and that a sum of Rs. 30000 is being offered by Government for carrying it out.

A note before us makes out a curious case in this behalf. It states:

"With the object of providing students of the Mysore University with an opportunity of enlarging their experience of life by contact with their less fortunate brethren, and of contributing their services to reduce illiteracy in the State, the Mysore University Union launched upon a scheme of making the people of the State literate."

"The period fixed for acquiring literacy is about 2½ months, and the post-literacy course, which helps to prevent lapse into illiteracy, occupies another 2½ months. The Adult Education Series helps to foster the reading habit, and incidentally provides a course of liberal education. Leaving the expenses of organisation, the cost of making one person literate amounts to Rs. 3—4—0 for a period of 5 months. This sum includes the allowance to the teacher. According to the present programme the entire male population of the city of Mysore could be made literate before the next census!"

So the egg of Adult Education has been hatched by the hen of the Mysore University Union, and considering the object and duties of the Union, we should consider it an unnatural production! Though the University Union was established for the welfare of all University students, and is maintained by a toll levied from all students without exception, its advantages, whatever they be, are reaped by less than ten per cent of the student population!

Education, we are told, is a difficult venture, and even full-blown graduates are put through what is called "Training," before they can handle classes. That being so, that the members of the Union, who are after all half-educated, should launch forth on a campaign against illiteracy, is utter presumption. "A little learning is a dangerous thing," and that such young men should go forth like Don Quixotes to educate the world is hardly right. They ought to utilise their days, like bees and ants, to acquire knowledge, store up learning, and train their mind and thought, so that when they enter the world later they might fill their place with happiness to themselves, and usefulness to others. Or if they are able and cleverer than their fellow-students, they might try to help those of them as may require aid in preparing for their courses. That, of course, would not be spectacular, or afford scope for bombast; whereas this so called "adult literacy campaign" is capable of advertisement however illegitimate it may be!

With regard to the University staff who may be indulging in this pastime, may we ask whether they are doing it in addition to their legitimate duties, or at the expense of those duties? We are inclined to think that it is at the expense of those duties.

If, on the other hand, they make out that it is in addition to their legitimate duties, the public should not sweat them like that. Their legitimate duties, if honestly discharged, should be exhausting jobs, and cannot allow of illegitimate activities. That point the University ought to take note of. It would be interesting if somebody would set up a Committee to enquire into the amounts of legitimate Professorial work and the outside work in which the University staff are engaged. It would be an eye-opener!

They say that 470 persons took the literacy test, and 450 passed it. Why not they also show similar results in the University Examinations themselves? There the pleasure lies in making the students fail; here the pleasure is in giving easy certificates, and showing off before the gullible world!

When it is announced that some five months of dilattanti activity, and a few cock and bull books hastily got up, will "foster the reading habit and provide a course of liberal education," one has grave doubts about the reasoning powers of the announcer! If liberal education were so cheap and so easily attained, why should we waste years and money on a costly University, and a wide range of books?

Nor are we the less surprised about Government's own quick interest in this cheap scheme.

The question of Women's Education, which is 60 years old now, has yet to receive the attention that it deserves, and that it is entitled to. Women's Collegiate Education and High School Education are left to get on without proper staff, proper buildings, and proper equipment. The treatment meted out to them is parsimonious, left-handed, and step-motherly. To reorganise Women's education on a proper footing should be a major task of the Educational Minister.

The organisation of Primary Education, again, is being made the victim of experiments for nearly a generation, and as though Government's resources were all tied up and inflexible, an additional taxation has been imposed over-night in its name by a stroke of the pen!

And while Government are thus still groping with regard to their obligatory duties, this new scheme has been dangled before them, and they have caught the bait, with a dowry of 30,000 rupees!

We see that the Karnataka Sahitya Parishat has a finger in this pie also! It of course "knows a good thing when it sees one!" If it can have an opportunity to make easy money, why not? A four figure Government grant annually, an unending Dictionary scheme with five figure expenditure, and now this new concoction, capable of attracting lavish Government funds!

Let us however state before closing, that if Government funds are to be granted for this scheme, it is not such unauthorised bodies as the University Union, or Karnataka Parishat, or the Scout Association which should be allowed to handle them and run the movement for the benefit of their own members, but that it should be worked departmentally, and the machinery to be utilised should be the unemployed products of the University who are wandering from pillar to post in search of a bare living. Then, whatever the benefits of the campaign itself may be, the funds at least would have been put to some good purpose. *Editor.*

BOOKS RECEIVED

"BALIDA OORUGALU"

BY MR. B. S. CHANDRASEKHARIAH, B.A., Ledg.

Rarely does a literary father get a literary son. The author named above and his father Mr. B. Srikantiah, author of "Shishu-chandrike," "Sookthi-sudhe" &c. are of that rarity. The son writes the book, and lays it aside as useless. But the father takes it up, retouches it, and publishes it!

The title is the name of a series, meaning "Decayed Towns" or "Once-prosperous Towns." This particular book deals with the story of "Basaral," now a village some distance from Mandya, and the home-town of the author. The name formerly meant "A town ruled by a pregnant queen;" because, its chieftain being killed in battle, his progeny still in the womb of its mother was anointed king, and the pregnant mother ruled over the country. The author traces the history of the town in the 11th and 12th centuries. and gives copious details about its manners, customs, monuments, and relics. Incidentally he gives sketches of the Ganga, Hoysala, and Vijayanagar Rulers, and the status of Basaral under those kingdoms.

It is a good production, well-meant, and well-written, and priced only four annas. If other towns like Talkad, Kalale, Chamarajanagar, Kalasa, and Chitaldrug, should inspire similar chronicles, the collection would prove eminently interesting! Ed.

RICH BEYOND DREAMS BUT WHAT AN END!

Gabriel Julien Ouvrard, one of the greatest capitalists of Europe, resolved to have a million dollars for each year of his life, and, at the age of 30, he was worth 33 million dollars.

Later he loaned Napoleon 400,000,000 francs, the King of Spain 500,000,000 francs, bought the silver treasures of Mexico for 300,000,000 dollars, won a financial duel against the Rothschilds for 90 million dollers, in 1815 paid a 3 billion-dollar indemnity to the Allies to remove their armies from France. And he spent the last 9 years of his life in a debtor's prison, and died in obscurity!

THREE SPEAKERS ON THE WAR

STALIN

"The enemy is not as strong as certain terror-stricken and weak intellectuals picture him! The devil is not as terrible as he is painted! Who can deny that our Red Army more than once turned the much lauded German troops to panicky flight? If one judges by Germany's actual position, and not by the boastful assertions of German propagandists, it will not be difficult to see that the German Fascist invaders are facing disaster!

"Hunger and impoverishment now reign in Germany In four months of war, Germany has lost four and a half million soldiers Germany is bleeding to death, her resources are giving out, the spirit of revolt is gaining possession not only of the nations of Europe who fell under the yoke of the German invaders but the German people itself, who see no end to the war!

"The German invaders are straining their last forces There is no doubt that Germany cannot sustain such a strain for a long time Another few months—another half year, one year, may be—and Hitlerite Germany must burst under the weight of her own crimes"

"This," said M Stalin, "is holy war, the war of liberation Forward for the entire destruction of the invader!"

"Comrades, Red Army and Red Navy men, commanders and political instructors, men and women guerillas, the whole world looks to you as the force capable of destroying the brigand hordes of German invaders! The enslaved peoples of Europe who fell under the yoke of the German invaders look to you as to their liberators! A great liberation mission has fallen to your lot So, be worthy of this mission The war you wage is a war of liberation—a just war Let the manly images of our great ancestors inspire you in this war Let the victorious banner of the great Lenin fly over your heads. For the complete destruction of the German invaders! Death to the German occupiers! Long live our glorious Motherland, her freedom, her independence! Under the banner of Lenin, Onward to Victory!"

GOEBBELS

"The question of how the war is going to end is to-day more important than the question of when,' says the German Minister for Propaganda, Dr. Goebbels, writing in the German newspaper *Das Reich* In direct contrast with the previous responsible pronouncements that, in effect, the war was practically won, Dr Goebbels' article has created a sensation in Germany owing to its extremely serious tone

"Germany's enemies have agreed together to seek once more to knock out and exterminate Germany, reducing her to nothing By winning this war everything is won freedom to make use of raw materials, food, living space, the basis for a new social order in our State and the possibility of national life By losing this war all this will be lost, and what is more grave, our national life itself! There is no getting away from it for any of us,' he said "If we do not wage this war now, we will have to wage it in future under much more unfavourable circumstances!

Dr Goebbels said that none would admit that Europe's problems would have been solved had Poland bowed to the German demands in 1939, or if Britain and France, following Poland's defeat, had accepted Hitler's peace proposals "Germany would once again have found herself forced a few years later to make war, but with the difference that her enemies would then have reached a degree of armament that she could not possibly have equalled!"

CHURCHILL

"I have never given any assurance of speedy or easy or cheap victory On the contrary, as you know, I have never promised anything but the hardest conditions and great disappointments and many mistakes, but I am sure that in the end, all will be well for us in our island! All will be better for the world, and there will be that crown of honour to those who have endured and never failed which history will accord for having set an example to the whole human race!"

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V

COL. BRITTAIN IS NOT "COL. BRITTAIN"

How did it all begin? Who first hit upon the idea of using the letter V as a secret sign? Posterity will want to know the answer to these questions, for the V campaign is likely to play a decisive part in hastening the end of the war.

Here is the story of the birth of a great idea...

Last autumn the British Government invited Victor de Laveleye (pronounced Lavvelay), a well-known Belgian Liberal and anti-Nazi, to direct the B.B.C.'s propaganda service to Belgium. One evening in January de Laveleye was sitting with some Belgian friends in a West-end hotel. There was a bad blitz that night; our A.A. guns had opened up, the bombs were whistling and crashing and London was lit with the glare of fires.

But de Laveleye and his friends paid little attention. They were hard at work trying to find a slogan that would serve as a fiery cross, and appeal equally to the British and their allies.

Suddenly de Laveleye's pale face lit up. "I've got it!" he said. "The letter V is the sign we are looking for. The English word 'victory' begins with a V, and so does its French equivalent—'victoire.' Then there's the Flemish word 'Vrijheid,' which means liberty. Victory and liberty go together—one is the consequence of the other. Yes! V is the sign we must adopt."

On January 14th, broadcasting to his compatriots from London—which he once described superbly as "the mutilated capital of the human race"—Victor de Laveleye explained the significance of the V sign, and urged all loyal Belgains to use it as often as they could.

There was an immediate response in Belgium, and soon "V's" began to appear in Holland as well. The Dutch were already using the letter W (for Wilhelmina) as a national symbol; it was a simple matter to add V. Towns in the north of France were the next to take up the V campaign. On March 22nd, in a special broadcast, the B.B.C. brought it to the notice of all Frenchmen—with results that drove the Nazis to fury.

And now let's take a closer look at the man whose flash of inspiration supplied the watchword that all Europe had been waiting for.

"When I ran across Victor de Laveleye again in London last year," writes Marcel-Henri Jasper in 'France' (the French daily newspaper published in London by supporters of General de Gaulle) "I found him unchanged. He was just the man I remembered seeing in Brussels, at the Bar and in Parliament.

"Tall, thin, and pale with thin features lit sometimes by the reflection of his silvery hair, he has the presence of certain British notabilities whose deliberately untidy way of dressing gives them an air of discreet elegance peculiar to themselves.

"His eyes, overhung by heavy brows, are clear, quick, and intelligent. Though he is now in his late forties, he has kept a remarkable youthfulness of bearing, thanks to his lifelong devotion to sport. And he is young in spirit as well as in body.

"He was rather late in entering the political arena, but he quickly established himself in the front rank of Belgian Liberals. He attracted attention by his brutal frankness, the sincerity of his convictions, the warmth of his eloquence, his moral courage, and his complete disregard of self-interest. These qualities raised him in 1936 to the presidency of the Liberal Party, and he was largely responsible for the downfall of the Rexists in April 1937."

Twenty-five years ago Victor de Laveleye fought for his democratic ideals and the liberation of Belgium as a front-line soldier. To-day, on British soil he is again in the front line, and fighting for the same objects as a propagandist. His grey hair is turning white, but he has lost none of his enthusiasm, and his belief in the ultimate triumph of democracy is as strong as ever.

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INDIAN SCIENCE APPEALS TO BRITISH SCIENCE

CULCUTTA.

Sir P. C. Ray has addressed the following open letter to Sir Richard Gregory, President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science:

"Dear Sir Richard,—Indian scientists have noted with appreciation the general views on the subject of the social relations of science expressed at the recent meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science held in London. They also fully endorse the Charter of scientific principles, adopted at the meeting, where scientists of some other countries had also gathered. The trend of thought and discussion at this important meeting of the British Association has no doubt been prompted by the rise of bellicose Fascism in Europe during recent years and by the moral, social and intellectual *malaise* resulting from it.

"Indian scientists would, however, take this opportunity to point out to the scientists of Britain and of other countries that the object of science for the promotion of human welfare is not only frustrated by Fascism, but also by Imperialism, as it operates, for instance, in India and in other dependencies of Britain. Industrialisation, which is essential for the prosperity and strength of a nation in the modern age, has been persistently opposed, and even recently the Government of India has refused to support the growth of the automobile industry in India, and the Secretary of State for India has spoken in Parliament against the manufactures of internal combustion engines in this country.

"The British Prime Minister's message to the recent meeting of the British Association is nobly worded. But his categorical pronouncement that the Atlantic Charter applies only to countries suffering from German aggression and not to territories acquired by British aggression in the past, shows that the future of mankind is far from hopeful in spite of the sacrifices of untold millions for freedom and a just world order. We Indian scientists urge other scientists all over the world to assert that the question of scientific reconstruction of society on the principles of freedom and justice for all should not have geographical limitations.

"We are convinced, as we hope you are, that the problem of freedom, progress and happiness of mankind is indivisible in the modern world!"

* * *

We are afraid that Sir Richard Gregory has as little voice in the matter as Sir P. C. Ray!

Ed.

HYDERABAD WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

H. E. H. THE NIZAM'S MESSAGE

HYDERABAD (Dn.)

"The association of people having the same noble ideal and possessing a sane and exalted outlook on life, coupled with selfless devotion to the cause of humanity, is one of the surest means to national progress," said His Exalted Highness the Nizam, in the course of a message to the fifteenth session of the Hyderabad State Women's Conference which was held last week under the presidentship of Mrs Rustomjee Faridoonjee.

Continuing, H. E. H. the Nizam said, "You would confer a great boon on the country and especially on the younger generation, by devoting yourselves wholeheartedly to child-welfare work. Children constitute the future hope of the world, safeguarding the continuity of human evolution. Your appeal for social welfare work among the poor would be praiseworthy on humanitarian grounds at any time, but it is most opportune in these times of emergency. Natural causes over which man has no control, combined with the suicidal policy of the human race, have made life more difficult for everyone and particularly for the poor. The Government is doing all it can to bring relief to the needy. But at the same time it is the sacred duty of every well-to-do citizen to look after his more unfortunate brethren."

Mrs. Faridoonjee, in the course of her presidential address, discussed the questions of women's education in the State and communal unity. As regards education, she suggested the introduction of domestic science as a compulsory subject in all girls' schools and the formation of social service groups. She also stressed the importance of health and sanitation.

As regards the question of communal harmony, she pleaded for the abolition of communal schools and suggested the formation of unity leagues. She emphasised the need for common language for India and thought Hyderabad could play an important part in this respect.

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, in the course of a message to the Conference, said: "All the world over women are proving themselves not only ready but admirably competent to share the burden of responsibility of serving the needs of their countries in times of war and peace." She appealed to the women of Hyderabad to prove their worth in genuine and selfless practical service for the State.

"THE RATIONALIST"

An Official Memorandum states, "the "Rationalist," an English Weekly published in Mysore City, is included in the Exchange List of Newspapers and Journals issued with official Memorandum No. G. 815-25/G. M. 4-40-1 dated 12th July 1940.

A copy of the English Edition of the "Mysore Gazette," and other Departmental publications placed at the disposal of the Press may be supplied to the Editor in exchange for the copy of the paper to be supplied to the Library of the General and Revenue secretariat."

We acknowledge the above with thanks.

Ed.

STUDENTS AND POLITICS

MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR'S ADVICE

ALLAHABAD.

Speaking under the joint auspices of the Allahabad University Union and the Allahabad Students' Association, Mr. Rajagopalachar explained what he meant when he said that students should abstain from politics.

Speaking as a father or an educational amateur, he would say that students, so long as they were in pursuit of studies, should not take part in politics. During this time, they should try to train their reasoning faculty, to try to distinguish the essential from the superficial and the true from the false, and to collect habits of thought which could be formed only when they were young. If they wanted to join the actual fray, they should give up studies. They should certainly examine political questions, but they should do so in an academic and dispassionate manner.

Current political affairs, said Mr. Rajagopalachari, should be left alone, because they generated emotional heat. A heated brain was not likely to come to correct conclusions, and students, unlike politicians, could not afford to go wrong because it affected their whole life. If, however, students were interested in current affairs, they should be able to look at them in an academic and dispassionate manner with their emotions controlled.

By way of example of academic study of a current matter, Mr. Rajagopalachari gave a detailed and academic survey of the present Congress policy, tracing in detail its origin, history and its implications.

In conclusion, Mr. Rajagopalachari said that students, thus, could certainly contribute to political thought if not to political action. He exhorted them to cultivate a correct reasoning power which would lead them to correct conclusions.

THE WAR NEWS

It is interesting to compare the war news announcements of to-day with those given in the newspapers of Paris in 1815. Bonaparte's departure from the Isle of Elba, his march across Europe, and his entry into the French capital, were announced in the following terms:

9th March.—The Cannibal has escaped from his den. 10th.—The Corsican ogre has just landed at Cape Juan. 11th.—The Tiger has arrived at Gap. 12th.—The Monster has passed the night at Grenoble. 13th.—The Tyrant has crossed Lyons. 14th.—The Usurper is directing his course towards Dijon. 18th.—Bonaparte is sixty leagues from the capital; he has had skill enough to escape from the hands of his pursuers. 19th.—Bonaparte advances rapidly but he will never enter Paris. 20th.—To-morrow Napoleon will be under our ramparts. 21st.—The Emperor is at Fontainebleau. 22nd.—His Imperial and Royal Majesty last evening made his entrance into his palace of the Tuileries, admidst the joyous acclamations of an adoring and faithful people!

* * *

It shows that English is a flexible language, and that French thought is adaptable! Ed.

RAID WARNINGS BY RADIO

A new kind of Radio raid alert set costing about £3, which strikes a gong and through which raid instructions may be given, has reached the stage where it can take the place of an air-raid siren.

It was given a test between London and New York when Major F. W. Jackson, commanding the London Fire Brigade, talked to Mayor LaGuardia, of New York, in a two-way broadcast, according to the 'Sunday Express.'

The "siren set"—a small three-valve mains-and-battery set—can be put into any house.

It is operated by an official from a central control point. All he has to do is press a button which rings alarms in all homes where the set is installed. Then he can give instructions.

The alert can only be switched on by the man in charge at the central control point.

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STUDY OF SANSKRIT

ALLAHABAD.

Addressing the Annual Convocation of the Allahabad University Dr. Panna Lall, I.C.S., Adviser to the U. P. Governor, laid stress upon the need for the study of Sanskrit and ancient Indian history. Their study was essential to create a correct idea of our national heritage. "Sanskrit is the language of our soul," he said, "It enshrines the characteristic ideals of our race—an uncompromising search for truth on the one hand, and an explicit and definite recognition, on the other, of the fact that there may be different paths leading to the same goal, thus condemning intellectual as well as moral bigotry. Sanskrit philosophy and thought provides, too, a much-needed check to prevent us from going off the rails in the pursuit of science and materialism." The decline in the study of Sanskrit had had wide and far-reaching repercussions—the most obvious (and to him the most regrettable) of which was the neglect of the study of ancient Indian history and civilisation. For, that study demanded a familiarity with ancient documents, copper-plate grants, inscriptions and coins—and practically all these were in Sanskrit. And thus, not only were they in danger of losing their literature but also of forgetting their history.

Dr. Panna Lall further said that in the new world order which they were anxiously envisaging and with the attainment by India of her proper place in the world, the Universities would have to shoulder far greater and heavier responsibilities to the nation, for which they must need prepare from now. The State should come to the rescue of those young men who did not want University education for its own sake but went there only with a view to bettering their value in the employment market. The State should provide for them avenues at the pre-University stage leading to suitable Government services or to industrial or military vocations. He also suggested that the Government should fix the upper age limit at 18 or 19 for certain subordinate services and posts for which the High School or Intermediate might be sufficient minimum qualification, as this would give a real chance to the under-graduates.

DANGER OF HOARDING BANKNOTES

People who hoard bank-notes at home as an emergency measure are causing some concern in banking circles. Recent cases of large sums of money in bank-notes being lost or stolen have drawn attention to the dangers of this practice.

A banking official said recently:—

"People should realize that if their buddles of bank-notes are destroyed in an air raid, or are stolen, they have lost that amount of money. It is almost impossible to prove the loss.

"But if their local bank were to be completely destroyed their money would still be intact. All they would need to do would be to apply at a local branch, and, after a little delay for checking up at the head office, they would be able to draw their money as usual.

"It is reasonable for a man to keep a little more ready cash than usual at home in case of a sudden emergency, such as air-raid damage, but this hoarding of hundreds of pounds in notes is stupid."

* * *

But if the Bank happens to be a foreign bank, over which the local Government, or local courts, or local public, have no control, what is the good? The Travancore Quilon Bank has provided an infamous example. And what is the guarantee that the other foreign banks working in the State have provided? And yet how much public money has been blindly put into them already? Ed.

YOU CAN SEE THE WIND

SIR,—I wonder how many of your readers are aware that one can see the wind, whether it roars across land and sea at ninety miles an hour or is merely a gentle breeze!

Choose a windy day, cold or hot, dull or bright—but not when it is raining or the air is murky. In other words, the wind is seen best if a clear and dry day is chosen.

Now take a large hand-saw or some other object with a polished metallic surface of three feet or more, with a straight edge. Hold it diagonally to the direction of the wind, tilting it about forty-five degrees to the horizon, so that the wind forcing it will flow over the edge.

Look over the edge at some small, sharply defined object, and you will see the air flow over as water flows over Niagara Falls! The wind is seen even better when the sun is not shining! Yours &c. X.

The Rationalist.

Monday 24-11-1941.

PEACE AND HAPPINESS

To talk of peace and happiness when a great War is spreading like wild-fire from nation to nation is like thinking of ice-cold water when one is lost admidst the hot sands and choking winds of the Sahara! Yet that is the title of a tract before us by Mr. Abdullah Allahdin, M.A., (Edin), from Secunderabad. Peace and happiness as based on the teachings of the Al Quran is certainly an interesting study, and is as much an eye-opener to Muslims as to those belonging to other religions.

Judging from one's daily news, one is led to the mistaken impression that the religion makes Muslims overbearing, intolerant, oppressive, and masterful! But it is not the religion that inculcates the Dacca riots, or Nellore, or Bombay riots. It is not the religion that inculcates the fight for worldly wealth by means of unreasonable and blind fury. It is not the religion that prescribes the quelling of opposition by means of cruelty and bloodshed.

The Quran is not arrogant, or self-important, or ruthless like the Nazi Code or Communist Testament. Its testaments are as solicitous of human welfare, and as desirous of effacing human foibles as any of the other Great Religions. It does not tell its followers, like an aggressive General in a theatre of War, to "shoot to kill!"

What it does is to provide its followers with a sense of fellowship and capacity for concerted action, which selfish persons may perhaps utilise to gain selfish ends, with untoward results for the world at large. But it is not the religion which is martial, inculcating that every non-Muslim should be enslaved or annihilated. It is martial followers who perhaps wish to serve their religion by making inroads upon weaker peoples and forcible conversion; thus gathering numerical strength for further invasions and conversions, like a snowball which gathers volume as it rolls on!

The peaceful teachings of the religion itself are set forth in the book before us, and may serve as an eye-opener to both muslims and non-muslims, and help perhaps towards mutual goodwill. We cull below a few of them:

"Say, verily, my prayers, my sacrifice, my life, and my death are for Allah, the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe," observes the holy Prophet of Islam. How literally it corresponds to the famous statement of the Gita,

ಮನ್ಮನಾಭವ ಮದ್ಭಕ್ತೋ ಮದ್ಯಾಜೀ ಮಾಂ ನಮಸ್ಕುರು।
ಮಾಮೇವೈಷ್ಯಸಿ ಸತ್ಯಂತೇ ಪ್ರತಿಜಾನೆ ಪ್ರಿಯೋಸಿಮೆ॥

"I was a hidden treasure, I desired that I should be recognised, therefore I created man," declares God to Muslims. How reminiscent is it of the Upanishadic statement of Creation, "ನಾಸದಾಸೀನ್ನೋ ಸದಾಸೀತ್", and "ತಥಾ ನಾಮರೂಪೆವ್ಯಾಕರವಾಣಿ"! and of, "God said 'Let there be light!," theory of Creation in the Christian Book of Genesis!

"Those who desire the life of the world and its charms, We reward them for their actions here in this world, and they do not lose anything thereby; these are they for whom there is nothing in the hereafter except fire; all their endeavours would be wasted because they were bent towards the attainment of aims which did not count."

And again in the *Surai Takasur*, "Because of the greed of amassing wealth you become unmindful of your real purpose until you come to the grave; but beware that Hell is the final resort," finds its mate in the Christian concept about the "Elephant sooner passing through the eye of a needle than a rich man through the narrow gates of Heaven," and in the Hindu inculcation of the "evanescence of worldly wealth," and the Buddhist and Jain inculcations of renunciation and harmlessness!

And God, as Rabbil Alameen, says "There has been a Prophet for every nation;" and "We have not sent any messenger but in the language of his nation so that he might explain to them clearly."

That gives countenance to the view that the other great religions also have divine sanction, and that their followers are not to be contemned as *kaffirs* and *infidels*.

"Divine Teachings regarding Peace and Happiness" by Mr. Abdullah Allahdin, M.A., (Edin), Oxford Street, Secunderabad.

The author says, "But the Jews and Christians believe that he alone can be God's true Messenger who brings God's word in the Hebrew language. Similarly the Hindus believe that only Vedas, which are in the Sanskrit language, are books of the true Word of God, all others being false. But it is surprising and highly regrettable that Muslims too, following the same belief, say that God's word is revealed only in the Arabic language, all others being false!"

To us it seems that it is but right that each one should hold that his religion is the greatest, purest, and most beautiful, and therefore worthy of his devotion; just as each man might justly hold that his wife and children are the best in the world and therefore entitled to his best protection. But it is entirely wrong to go further and hold that all other religions are false, and that they should be wiped out and their followers massacred; just as it would be entirely wrong for the father to force all other men's wives and children to become bond-slaves to his own!

Some other sayings from the Holy Quran are no less enlightening.

"A Muslim must say 'Peace be on him' whenever he utters the name of any Prophet of any religion."

"Oh ye who believe, do not enter houses other than your own, till you have asked permission and offered the greetings of peace on the inmates."

"Let not hatred towards any community induce you not to act uprightly."

"A community must desist from boasting of their ancestors."

"The man who rouses racial pride in others is not of us, and the man who fights others on account of his racial pride or prejudice is not of us."

"Allah is not merciful to him who is not so to mankind."

"Do you love your Creator? Love your fellow-beings first."

'Say, "We believe in what is revealed to us, and what has been revealed to you, and our God and your God is One, and we are to him Muslims."'

"Do not seek to make mischief in the land; verily Allah does not love the mischief-makers."

"You are ordained to listen and obey those in authority over you, whether you be rich or poor, willing or unwilling, whether justice is done to you or the case is otherwise."

"I advise you to be chaste and pious, and to obey the Ruler of the time, even if he be an Ethiopian slave."

"Make peace between men: one who creates dissentions perishes."

"Make peace between men when they are fighting, and unite when they are disunited."

Such are the teachings of Allah and His Holy Prophet as emphasised in Mr Abdullah Allahdin's interesting book. It seems to us therefore perverse for Muslims or non-muslims to make out that the religion incites its followers to secure their rights or destroy other people's rights by violence and bloodshed. It is amply borne out by the extracts above that there is as little sanction for Muslims to look down upon followers of other religions, as for the others to look upon Islam with prejudice or aversion.

It is as wisely and nobly conceived as any other religion, and is as good and great as any other religion. Its fundamental tenets are just the same as those of other religions, the Ten Commandments of Christianity, or the "ಸತ್ಯಂವದ। ಧರ್ಮಂಚರ। ಸ್ವಾಧ್ಯಾಯಾನ್ಮಾಪ್ರಮದಃ॥ Speak the Truth; Do the Right; and Mind your Duties;" of the Upanishads.

We believe that wise Muslims do accept this view, as we have observed in some of the recent proclamations of His Exalted Highness of Hyderabad, and as in the preface to the book, Mr. S. M. Hassan, I.C.S., observes; "Thus all Prophets and their followers are linked together quite closely in a bond of spiritual kinship. All the Prophets are to us like a spiritual father, and followers are all our spiritual brothers. If we believe God to be *Rabbil-alameen* in this sense, we will lay the foundation of eternal peace and universal brotherhood of mankind!"

Only Rabbil Alamin can answer the question, "Why not?" We can only ask our venerable Christian readers to utter the English benediction "Amen!", and ourselves give expression to its Sanskrit counterpart, "Thathaasthu!—May it be so!" *Editor.*

INSURANCE IN INDIA

NBW DELHI.

The total new life insurance business (excluding business on the dividing plan) effected during 1939 amounted to 300,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs 46,62,00,000 and yielding a premium income of Rs 2,37,00,000 as compared with 322,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs 51,72,00,000 and yielding a premium income of Rs 2,71,00,000 in 1938, according to the Indian Insurance Year Book for 1940. Of this, new business done by Indian insurers amounted to 289,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs 42,51,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 2,14,00,000 , as compared with 296,000 policies assuring a sum of Rs 43,30,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 2,28,00,000 in the previous year.

The total new sums insured by Indian life offices in 1939 amounted to nearly Rs. 45,96,00,000, as compared with Rs 46,68,00,000 in the previous year. The total business remaining in force at the end of the year was Rs 2,32,42,00,000, as compared with Rs. 2,19,00,000 at the end of the previous year The total revenue income of the Indian life offices during the year amounted to Rs 14,83,00,000, as compared with Rs. 14,13,00,000 in 1938

The life assurance funds increased by Rs 5,10,00,000 and amounted to Rs 56,31,00,000 at the end of the year The rate of interest earned on the life funds during the year after deductions of income-tax at source was 4 68 per cent, as compared with 5 15 per cent in the previous year.

The total number of insurers registered under the Insurance Act, 1938 (excluding those whose certificates of registration have been cancelled) up to May 15, 1941 was 295, of which 197 insurers were constituted in India

Some Indian life offices have been operating outside India, mostly in Burma, British East Africa, Ceylon, Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements. The total new sums insured by these offices outside India in 1939 amounted to Rs. 3,45,00,000 yielding a premium income of Rs 19,00,000 as compared with Rs. 3,39,00,000 yielding a premium income of Rs 19,50,000 in the preceding year

The net Indian premium income of all insurers under insurance business other than life insurance during 1939 was Rs 3,37,00,000, as compared with Rs. 2,82,00,000 in 1938. Of this, the Indian insurers' share was Rs. 1,02,00,000 as compared with Rs. 89,00,000 in the previous year.

Some Indian insurers transact a substantial amount of non-life insurance business outside India also. These insurers had a net premium income of Rs. 85,00,000 in 1939 (as compared with Rs. 78,00,000 in 1938) from business outside India.

VALUATION BASES

In the course of a survey of the valuations of Indian Life Offices for the last few years, the Year Book says "It is still to be deplored that many insurers continue to operate at rates of expense far in excess of the provision in their premiums and in their valuation, a proceeding which, in the absence of continual windfalls from extraneous sources, can have only one ultimate result—insolvency and collapse. The position is viewed with anxiety in responsible quarters and is being closely watched. No language can be too emphatic with which to impress on insurers, and provident societies too, the urgent need for reducing their expenses"

Referring to insurers of recent origin, the report says that the requirements of the Insurance Act, 1938, may be expected to act as a deterrent to the formation of new insurers on any but the strongest foundations Nevertheless, a number of new concerns have been started in recent years While some of them are striving, not without success, to establish themselves, "it is regrettably true that others are being forced gradually to realise that they had not given sufficient heed to the Year Book warnings in previous years They must take stock of the position and decide for themselves whether they have the resources of finance and managerial skill to justify them in calling up shareholders and policy-holders to continue their support through the difficult times that must precede emergence into more tranquil conditions"

In the case of those insurers who do not possess such resources, the report suggests that the position can best be met by an extensive process of amalgamation or transfers

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MAN IS REALLY THE WEAKER SEX

Man, we are being told again, is the weaker sex. "I was astonished to see how quickly the younger men collapsed," said an equally young girl the other day to reporters who sought her opinion on open boat voyaging in mid-Atlantic.

This young woman's discovery was but confirmation of what the scientists have been telling us all along. Man has always been known as the weaker sex.

He is more prone to die at every stage from birth to old age. He is also more likely to suffer severely from influenza, and is more susceptible to almost every disease which is not, for physical reasons, confined to one or other of the sexes. He is notoriously more "difficult" as a patient, and will grumble at small matters of pain which a woman will take in her stride!

Whatever approach is taken, the record is a sorry one! The ophthalmologist brings the taunt of colourblindness. Not one woman in a thousand, it is said, is so afflicted. Among males, although different figures are quoted, a reasonable estimate appears to be about ten per cent. Yet, apart from shopping—where woman admittedly wins on all counts—there are far more male occupations in which colour judgment is necessary.

WHERE WOMEN WIN

Phisiologists point out that women have better hearing on the average, and a keener sense of touch. Of memory, the psychologists speak with absolute certainty; the average girl or woman is better than the average man—and, indeed, the average husband is painfully aware of the superior memory of his wife.

Whatever else are man's failings, he objects strongly to being called weaker (says the 'Japan Weekly Chronicle.') He is used to contemplating athletic records, reflecting that though woman has entered athletics, the average schoolboy could do as well.

Unfortunately, athletic ability, even including weight lifting, is not the real test of physique. The fact is that without an unusual degree of coddling the male could scarcely survive.

Nature herself knows it, which is why she provides invariably a larger number of boy babies than girls. The proportion of boy babies who fail to survive from conception to birth is some ten per cent higher than is the case with girls.

The figures for cattle, sheep and horses tell the same story. And so with the pig, and, for that matter the rats which the scientists breed in their laboratories.

The sex ratio is adjusted to equality at the one age when it is important, biologically speaking, that the sexes should be evenly matched. Then, after the natural child-bearing age, the male ceases to be significant. It is a matter of relative indifference, for the survival of the species, whether the male lives or dies!

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INDIA'S FLYING DISTANCE FROM NEAREST AXIS STATION

NEW DELHI.

Mr. Williams, Secretary, Defence Co-ordination Department, replying to a question in the Council of State gave the distance from the nearest known Axis or Axis-controlled starting point for a bomber to a city in India as 1,840 miles. He added that the longest distance known to the Government that an Axis bomber had flown on a successful bombing raid was 2,500 miles, when an enemy bomber took off from Rhodes, bombed Behrein and returned to Massawa.

He further stated that the distance from the nearest Japanese or Japanese-controlled starting point for a bomber to Culcutta was 950 miles, while that from the nearest known Axis or Axis-controlled starting point for a bomber to Bombay and Delhi was 2,690 and 2,350 miles respectively

MARRIAGE ALLOWANCES TO OFFICER CADETS

Sir Gurunath Bewoor replied in the negative to Sir Henry Gidney's question whether married Officer Cadets who were of European parentage on both sides and who were under training in the various Officers' Training Schools received a marriage allowance of Rs 200 a month

Sir Henry asked if married Officer Cadets who were of pure Indian or of mixed European and Indian parentage were entitled only to a special allowance of Rs. 50 per month

Sir Gurunath Yes

Sir Henry asked why this difference existed in the allowances and whether the Government would remove this distinction when there was no difference in the standard of living between Anglo-Indian, European and Indian gentlemen recruited for the grant of emergency commissions belonging to families of good social status whose cost of living was not in any way inferior to that of Europeans and Anglo-Indians

Sir Gurunath said that the questions did not arise

Sir Henry asked if apart from any question of marriage allowance there was a difference of Rs 200 in the allowances paid to European and other Officer Cadets.

Sir Gurunath asked for notice!

* * *

Long questions and brief answers seem to be the order of the day! Ed.

A PATHETIC WAR EPISODE

LONDON.

Out of the 31 men who got away in a life boat after a merchant ship was torpedoed in the Atlantic, the only survivor to reach land was Richard Hamiltor Ayres, second mate of the ship

On Tuesday night the *London Gazette* announced that Ayres had been made a Member of the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire, because, "undismayed by a suffering death, he kept a stout heart and has done all a man could do to comfort his shipmates and bring them to safety!"

Three boats were got away after the torpedoing, but two of them have not been seen afterwards. The third boat, of which Ayres was in command, contained eight Europeans and 23 Indians. Ayres alone had any skill with the boats It was a dark night and heavy seas were running, so the party lay to sea anchor until dawn, then set sail and steered east Ayres fixed the water ration at two dippers daily, giving the Indians who were least able to withstand cold the forward part of the boat under canvas cover and all available blankets

After seven days, only seven men remained alive, the rest having died of exposure or from drinking sea water By the eighth day, the water was all gone and the men's hands and feet were badly frost-bitten After 13 days, land was sighted They were too weak to use the oars and so ran under shortened sail for the inhospitable shore A wave overturned the boat throwing everyone into the sea. Another breaker righted the boat and the second mate pulled himself aboard and helped to drag in the others. Again she turned turtle. The only three men to survive this last ordeal now clung to the keel! One let go his hold and the others were too weak to help him The second mate and a seaman now struck out desperately for the shore. Helpers came and the seaman scrambled to a rock, but before he could be rescued, he was washed back into the sea and was not seen again! Ayres was unconscious when he was hauled ashore!

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLIC OPINION

BANGALORE.

Speaking at a function organised in his honour by a Bangalore newspaper last week the Dewan said that during the last decade, the number of newspapers in this country had increased by over a thousand. In the Mysore State both newspapers and newspaper-readers had increased appreciably in recent years It was all good so long as the papers contributed to the enlightenment of the public. Adherence to truth was the foundation of good journalism, as it was of all public work Newspapers which purported to be instruments of party propaganda might prove to be a handicap to progress if they lost sight of the higher purpose for which the fourth estate was established.

Proceeding, the Dewan said that the formation of associations of journalists and of those connected with newspapers trying to attain a high standard of professional service and honour augured well for the future. There never was a time when the men who had become observers of events on behalf of leading journals had played so large a part in public life.

PROGRESS OF JOURNALISM IN THE STATE

Referring to the notable advance in journalism in the Mysore State in recent years and to the facilities given by Government to reporters, the Dewan said that the Government desired nothing less than the best of possible conditions for the press to work under and that without any obligations to the Government. The public, however, expected that the press should not only make its views known fearlessly but in a responsible way. When he spoke of responsibility, Mr Madhava Rao said, he referred to nothing more than the standards of journalism which had been successfully set by the leading respected dailies of the country. They might accept their opinions or differ from them, but they could not doubt their desire to do their best by the public.

The Dewan next dealt with the new Labour Legislation in the State and expressed the hope that the proprietors of newspapers in the State would fulfil the intentions of that legislation in respect of their own printing establishments. But that was not enough, he said they should exert their influence for promoting and not for hindering industrial peace. "The times are out of joint," Mr. Madhava Rao concluded, "We are under the shadow of war, and many things which might be said at other times with impunity, though not without impropriety, might lead to serious consequences. I have no doubt that the press in Mysore has no desire to play the part of agitator, but if it is to fulfil its higher mission, it has, not a negative task, but real constructive work to do!"

LADIES IN INDIAN SECRETARIAT

Answering a question of Pandit Kunzru, the Home Secretary said that 70 ladies, who were relations of Army or Secretariat officers, were at present employed as stenographers or Secretaries or in similar capacities under the Government of India on salaries ranging from Rs. 300 per month to Rs. 70 per month.

* * * *

Were these posts advertised? And were applications called for only from female relations of Army and Secretariat Officers? Did their qualifications suddenly burst forth under the stress of war?

Are there not other officers' wives engaged in Red Cross and similar army work? Why not they also be provided with salaries of Rs 70 to Rs. 300?

And how are the ladies allocated? Are the ladies of an officer assigned to his own office, or to another officer's office?

We think the Central Government, which imposes and enforces laws, might avoid things like these! Ed.

THE BENGAL MINISTRY

CALCUTTA.

A resolution requesting His Excellency the Governor to dissolve the present Cabinet in Bengal and to ask Mr Fazlul Huq to form a new Cabinet, composed of "true and real representatives of the children of the soil" was adopted at a public meeting Mr A K M Zakariah, ex-Mayor of Calcutta, presided About half a dozen speakers, most of whom were Muslims, addressed the meeting.

The speakers held the present Ministry responsible for the growth and spread of communalism in the province, and said that the Ministry, during the tenure of their office had not been able to do any substantial good to the masses of the people, both Hindus and Muslims They wanted a change in the personnel of the present Cabinet, not because they supported this group or that, but because they wanted to save the country from the rancour of communalism. They wanted a Ministry which would look to the real interests of the masses, both Hindus and Muslims.

* * *

And yet Mr. Huq could abuse Congress Ministries as communal! Ed.

REFORMS FOR BIKANER

PROCLAMATION BY RULER

ESSENTIALS OF GOOD GOVT. DEFINED

NEW DELHI.

On the eve of his departure to the Middle East, His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner made a proclamation pledging himself and his successors for all time, to the essentials of good government, which constituted something like a Charter of Rights for different classes of His Highness' subjects:

(1) Reign of Law, including certainty of law; and the recognition of the equality of all the subjects of the State, high or low, before law; (2) security and protection of life and property and of rights and individual liberty; (3) independence of a competent and trained judiciary and the provision of adequate machinery for the adjustment of disputes between individuals and between individuals and the State; (4) financial credit and stability; (5) efficiency and continuity of administration; (6) clear demarcation of State expenditure and the personal expenditure of the Ruler, and a definite and fixed percentage of the ordinary revenues of the State as the Civil List of the Ruler sufficient to meet his personal expenses and to maintain his position and dignity; (7) utilisation of as large a portion as possible of the resources of the State for the benefit of the people, and especially in what are called nation-building activities and beneficient departments; and (8) beneficient rule in the interests of the general well-being and contentment of the subjects of the State; and (9) the increasing association, as circumstances and local conditions permit, of the people with the Government through the Legislative Assembly, local boards, municipalities, and other elective institutions.

ADMINISTRATION IN THE LIGHT OF SHASTRAS

His Highness pointed out that these principles were embedded in Hindu Shastras and were binding on all Hindu rulers. Especially in regard to the reign of law, the Maharaja emphasised that, apart from the recognised principle of every one being equal before law, the right of *habeas corpus* was enjoyed by every one in the State under full judicial protection and under the supervision of a High Court free from executive control.

Another important announcement related to financial credit and stability, and in this connection. His Highness announced; "I should like especially to say that in regard to any large-scale investments in the Bikaner State Savings Bank or in industrial concerns whether they be by financiers and capitalists from outside or inside the State, which have been started, or may hereafter be started with assurances from or concessions by the State, such assurances and concessions will be scrupulously honoured both in the letter and in the spirit."

The continued utilisation of all available resources in expanding the activities of the beneficient departments was particularly emphasised.

INCREASED NATION-BUILDING ACTIVITY

"I am happy to be able to assure you," His Highness declared "that not only will these beneficient and nation-building activities continue undiminished, but, while discountenancing wasteful expenditure, no ruthless cuts in the State grants in regard particularly to these departments will be made merely for the purpose of saving or hoarding money, so that, even if circumstances may not permit of that in my life time, at least in the time of my successor, Bikaner, instead of merely ranking amongst the progressive States in India, may be in the forefront of the most progressive States."

Assurances were given to the chiefs and nobles of the State about the maintenance of their dignity and 'izzat' and the security of their Jagirs, so long as they conformed to the conditions of the grant; to the Seths and Sawukars about the protection of their legitimate interests and their association in framing the industrial and economic policies of the State, and to the new colonists in the canal area "that, so long as they remain loyal to the State and its Ruler they will enjoy all the rights and privileges of His Highness' other subjects, and everything will continue to be done to further their well-being and to ensure their prosperity!"

* * *

A good lead this to the famous Rajaputana States. Ed.

The Rationalist.
Monday 1-12-1941.

THE INSURANCE BONUS

We do not know what exactly is the work of the Indian Members of the Viceroy's Council in the administrative machinery. It is obvious that they cannot be burdened with too much of the day to day administration. And therefore they have to find work, and they seem to be finding work that will hold the public gaze. Holding as they do an All-India position, the temptation is strong to cut an All-India figure. One means of it is to hold all sorts of All-India Conferences with all India representatives from time to time.

Sir A. R. Mudaliar, Dr. E. Raghavendra Rao, Sir Noon, and Sir Mody are very busy in this respect. Dr. Rao is having his Civil Defence Conferences. Sir Mody, former spokesman of the Mill-owners, is trying to give the Mill-owners a good time. Sir Noon is having his Labour Conferences. And Sir Ramaswamy Mudaliar, Member for Commerce, has been having one kind of Conference or another and finding the gift of speech a valuable asset. There was the Petrol Conference, consisting of Petrol Chiefs, for rationing petrol consumption, the Science Conference of hand-picked scientists for reshaping and giving a push to Indian Industries, Conference of Economists consisting of home-made Doctors and foreign-made Doctors, thesis Doctors and dinner Doctors—of the type of dinner Barristers—Young and raw Doctors and old and antiquated Doctors, to consider "p o s t w a r p r o b l e m s",—what forethought! And recently the Insurance Advisory Conference.

The Petrol Conference sent back the petrol men with higher prices and joyous hearts. The Science and Economic Conferences are likely to be as effective as Madame Tussaud's Wax-works, though it pleases the Commerce Member to fondly speak of them as "brain-trusts." Does it mean taking the brains on trust?

We do not mind if these Conferences do not bear positive results. But that they should be one-sided, and produce results hurtful to the public is intolerable.

We hear that the recent Insurance Advisory Conference, "unanimously endorsed a suggestion that during the period of the war and for a year thereafter the payment of bonuses to policy-holders should be prohibited by such measures as the Government might adopt." The suggestion, it is explained, follows the arrangement that is in operation in the United Kingdom, where, by voluntary agreement, practically all the Insurance Companies are following this principle."

This precious "principle" of mulcting the trusting public of their hard-earned "interest"! Are the Insurance Companies in India now in a desparate state? Do their life-policies cover war-risks, and are most of their policy-holders dying in crowds on the field of battle? Are their properties being destroyed by air-bombing? And are their deposits taken away without interest and without security by an emergency Government? Are their share-holders foregoing their dividends, and their staffs, Directors, Auditors and medical men denied their normal dues? If none of these are affected by the war, why should the policy-holders alone be denied their just dues, just because a Commerce Member could be persuaded easily to legislate? After all bonuses are not paid out of capital, or out of losses. They are paid only out of the profits, and according to the scale of the profits, and not as a matter of course. Where then is the justification for legislation? Is the Superintendent of Insurance, is the Commerce member prepared to say that Bonuses need not be paid even out of the profits? Have they studied all aspects of the question with the aid of their wise judgment; or do they just wish to oblige the Insurance bosses and show the world that they have the power to legislate just as they like, and the public is voiceless in the matter?

We quote below a few facts about the largest of the Indian Insurers, the Oriental, for the information of the Commerce member public.

The following are from its 1940 report:

"The Company's claim experience continues to prove satisfactory, the ratio of actual deaths to the expected being 46 20.

"The ratio of expenses to premium income was only 20·6% as against 22% in 1938.

"The *excess* in the aggregate market values to the aggregate book-values of the investments amounted to Rs. 2·99 crores as against 91 lakhs in 1939.

"The Directors recommend a dividend to shareholders at Rs. 125 per share of Rs. 200."

The dividend is only 62½%, Reader, and it is a war-time dividend! And where do they pay it from? From the policyholders' money! And yet the policyholders should be left to suck their thumbs, for the sin of having insured!

Further, let us look into some of the expense items of the Company. Salaries Rs. 28 lakhs; Travelling Expenses Rs. 3·15 lakhs; Medical Fees Rs. 4·43 lakhs: Printing Rs. 1·80 lakhs; Postages 3·25 lakhs; dividends Rr. 3·75 lakhs on Rs. 6 lakhs worth of Shares; and Directors' Fees a modest Rs. 38000!

Is the Superintendent of Insurance ordering any reduction of expenditure under any of these items? We think not! Are the opulent Directors themselves, the Thakurdases, the Currimbhoys, the Hirachands, and those others in Calcutta and Madras, foregoing their fees during the pendency of the War? Certainly not!

And yet it is "unanimously agreed" that Government should order the stopping of bonuses to policy-holders during the war and a year thereafter. Will it be 'one year' from the date of the Armistice or from the date of the actual signing of the Peace terms?

Well, legislation of an Imperial State should not be made so cheap as that, and legislative power should not be utilised like that! Even in England, it has been admitted, despite the universal Conscription, despite the day and night air-raids and consequent losses, despite the Funds being in a state of chaos, it is not Government that have legislated the non-payment of bonus, but it is voluntary. But here with none of those conditions, our Company bosses are misleading Government into a wrong legislation!

Let us tell them however that the public are not muffs. The public can defer insuring till after the war; and those who have already insured could convert into paid-up policies. Could the Companies get legislation to prevent that? We wonder! *Editor.*

"NO" CAMPAIGN AGAINST PETAIN!

FRENCH AUTHOR'S STORY

Andre Maurois is reponsible for the following story about Marshal Petain, now head of the French Government at Vichy.

During the last war, when an appointment was to be made to his General Staff and an officer was recommended for it, Marshal Petain would invite the candidate to his country residence and put to him a problem in tactics. The Marshal would himself give the solution, and if the officer agreed with him, he would be rejected! If, on the contrary, the officer criticised the Marshal and did not prove himself to be a 'yes-man,' he was appointed. "The trouble was," the Marshal has himself confessed, "that this soon spread through the whole army, and I could not open my mouth without the humblest Lieutenant saying: 'No, Monsieur le Marechal!'"

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A GREAT SOCIAL INSTITUTE

(P. E. WAGSTAFF)

No matter how far a man has fallen, how cruel the blow of Fate, every man has within himself the power to make yet one more bid for happiness. It is always too soon to despair.

Those are the chief lessons I have learned in my thirteen years as Head of the Bethnal Green Men's Institute. In this East-end university I have watched the most astounding changes in character and the most dramatic rise in fortunes of some of the members. Men and youths have come to me when they have reached the extreme limit of human endurance, no work, no money, no food, and a prospect of deepening misery ahead!

Yet in a few months I have seen those men with money in their pockets, hope in their hearts, and ambitious schemes simmering under their hats!

How was it done? I should explain that officially this Institute is a London County Council establishment for evening classes; in practice it has become a school-cum-social club enjoying a membership of 2,000 enthusiasts with ages ranging from seventeen to seventy-two. Here, for eight months in the year, they learn to earn, to hope, and to live. If they have latent talent, they can develop it to their own profit.

Let me quote from my case book, using different names. Here is Tom. He walked into my office one evening, a lean youth with sagging jaw and lack lustre eyes and emaciated cheeks. His was the usual story: no work for four years, malnutrition, dubious companions.

I looked him over, noted his small feet, shoulder muscles, and tapering torso. Probably an athlete who had never had a chance, I decided. The boxing instructor took him in hand. The lad turned the scales at 8 stone and a bit, and the instructor decided to train him down to 8 stone.

In a few weeks we had two surprises. First, Tom proved himself to be a boxer born, light, plucky, audacious, and brainy, and secondly, no sooner had he got down to serious training than his weight, instead of lessening, increased until he achieved a steady 9 stone 9lb—clear evidence that his true physique had been attained. The lad worked hard, glorying in his fitness and the fact that he could do something better than the other fellows. To-day Tom is a boxing instructor at a school, earning good money and saving up to get married!

Harry was a similar case, unemployed and almost unemployable. Merely for something to do, he joined the Institute to learn weight-lifting. Then he drifted into the woodwork shop, and suddenly got the idea of learning cabinet-making. It was the step his hands and brain had been waiting for, instantly he discovered his talent, and to-day Harry is a teacher of handicrafts in a London day-school, doing the one job that Nature meant him to do, and therefore happy!

In Bethnal Green we have the aristocrats of carpenters. In many local families a genius for fine woodcraft can be traced back for five and six generations. Thus it often happens that we find in a lad an inherited knack for this type of work which he himself had never suspected. This was the case with young Charlie. He was a packing-case worker, hit by the slump. Even when times were good he rarely made more than thirty shillings a week. He wandered into the Institute one night, drifted from class to class for a few weeks trying to find his level, and then suddenly became absorbed in the cabinet-making class.

He found the skill in tools coming easily to him. He did exceptionally fine work. We taxed him with the secret of his rapid success, and found that his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather had all been master-craftsmen. Within a few months Charlie had turned his back on packing-case making for ever, he found a job as shopfitter, the most highly-skilled and best-paid department in the trade, and is now thoroughly established with a growing reputation. Another false start corrected!

Truly, these were young men and it may be urged that fresh starts come easily to the young. Let us, then consider old George. He was well over fifty when he came to us. He did odd painting and graining jobs, and seldom made more than a pound a week. At the Institute he taught himself polishing—a fine craft. He stayed with us for about three months, and as his skill increased it was a joy to watch the swelling pride and rising fortunes of the old craftsman. When he left us he was earning £6 a week in a steady job—more than he had ever made in his life before!

When men are given a free chance to develop their latent talents, nobody can say which way they will progress. Two men joined the gymnastic class some years ago. They were in the fur trade, one of them had been sacked because he was slightly tubercular. In the gymnasium they suddenly found that not only were they born tumblers, but their tumbles always made other people laugh. They began to rehearse a sort of Nervo and Knox act. Then we gave a show and persuaded an agent to come along. The lads were a riotous success, and the agent booked them for a tour on sight. When I last heard of them they had just signed contracts for a year's work at £30 a week. As furriers' assistants, their earnings had never been more than fifty shillings!

My case book contains scores of other examples of the success of the second chance—errand-boy to librarian; plumber to poster designer; road-mender to scenic artist; warehouseman to fine-metal worker; shop assistant to professional photographer; fish porter to lithographist.

I wish that the thousands of unemployed who ave no prospect of ever again being reabsorbed in ieir old callings could see these successes. It ight give them fresh hope and heart to train for nother class of job To them may I say in all iendliness never despair, you are never too old) try something new, and never so buffeted by ortune's knocks to have lost that one talent which in every man!

• • •

When shall we have something similar in Mysore and Bangalore? Ed.

TRAINING CHILDREN

If you wish to help your child's future train him or Chaos You begin by training the child to xpect the Unexpected. You refuse to commit ourself to to morrow You refuse firm promises ou insist that you and your child deal with events s they arise

You don't know what sort of a world the child ill be living in when grown up 'You don't know hat careers will be open or what social arts and races will be in favour Therefore you must make ne child master the largest possible number of kills, writes Walter B. Pitkin in 'The Woman'

Advise the child to learn law, not to practise it ut to apply its lore to something else Advise him o learn medicine if he wishes, not solely for the ake of becoming a doctor, but also for the wide ariety of uses to which he can put various medical kills. Advise the child to master engineering in rder to use engineering skills wherever chance nay determine

Tell the child that the world is a giant hand of ards each card an ability, some aces and some euces Any skill in handling the human body, so s to prevent, cure or relieve suffering is an ace 'ou apply it to yourself, to anybody else, you apply as a doctor might, or as a trained nurse might, or s a bacteriologist might Scores of jobs in hospitals n the Army and the Navy, in schools, in factories, nd in public health services, call for such abilities ome jobs will always call for them as long as eople fall ill, or get hurt, or grow old and feeble!

AN ENDOWMENT

A Correspondent writes 23 1-1941

Mr. Puttu Venkataramana Setty, a prominent eweller, Banker and Landholder, Asoka Road, Mysore City, celebrated Sastipurthi on his complet ng his 60 years yesterday in Mysore City After loma Pooja, Japam etc, there was Special Service f thanksgiving in Sri Kanyaka Parameswari Tem le wherein hundreds of people had assembled After making various gifts in cash and kind to Brahmins and other poor people a Dinner was held n which hundreds of Brahmins and Vysyas partici ated. In commemoration of this happy occasion Mr' Venkataramana Setty gave a liberal donation f Rs. 25/- to our journal "THE MYSORE VYSYA PATRIKA" and enrolled himself as its patron. He urther promised to start a Vysya Free boarding nd lodging Students' Hostel in Mysore City and ive an endowment of about Rs. 12,000/. for the aid purpose.

THE DEFENCE ACT

ALLAHABAD.

Mr R N. Basu, Chairman, disallowed a resolution tabled in the Allahabad Municipal Board for a contribution of a sum of Rs 15,000 towards the War Purposes Fund as he found that free expression of views on the resolution was not permissible.

It will be recalled that the resolution was moved in the Board in May last when a member raised a point of order asking for the ruling of the Chairman on the question whether members would be permitted free expression of their views and whether they would be protected from the operation of the Defence of India Rules The Chairman then postponed giving his ruling declaring that he would first consult the Government

GOVT COMMUNICATION

"With reference to your letter dated June 23, 1941, enquiring whether a member of the Board opposing a resolution for contribution to war purposes will be protected by virtue of his office from the operation of the Defence of India Rules, I am directed to say that Government do not find themselves in a position to offer any advice in a matter like this, as an action under the Defence of India Rules will depend on the circumstances of each case, nor are Government able to say how the law might be interpreted by the Court or applied by the District Magistrate who is responsible for administering it I may add that as the law stands, members of local bodies do not enjoy any special protection in the matter of speeches delivered by them in the meetings of the Board If you feel further difficulty in the matter I would suggest that you discuss it with the District Magistrate, Allahabad'

CHAIRMAN'S RULING

The Chairman after reading the Government letter, gave the following ruling disallowing the war contribution resolution

'I have given careful consideration to the matter and I find that free discussion is not permissible. As members opposing the resolution will not be protected from the operation of the Defence of India Rules a free discussion will not be permissible when the matter comes up for discussion As this amounts to the denial of the elementary rights of members to express their opinion freely, I consider that this matter cannot be considered in a democratic institution

"I therefore rule the resolution out of order."

• • •

Well, is the Chairman protected? Can he disallow a war-contribution motion without coming under the inexplicable Defence of India Rules? And what prevents the Rules being made more explicit? Ed.

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Proprietor & Editor: G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

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CUT DOWN CLOTHING

An appeal to Mahatma Gandhi to lead the public thought concerning rural reconstruction with a view to meeting the present shortage of food and clothing in the country, is made in the course of a letter to Gandhiji.

Referring to the shortage of food, it says: There are primarily two classes of food crops, *viz.*, corn food and vegetable food. Of the corn food, Indian market, so far as it is connected with the world market, of rice, wheat and the like, may not be always at our control.

WILL TO SURVIVE

But there are other corns, such as, jaori, bhutta and other such crops, which are not always liable to be carried abroad, can be safely produced for our own consumption. Vegetables, specially green vegetables, except potato, are not liable to be carried away and placed into the world market, and they may be produced on a very large scale for our own consumption and survival.

Some green vegetables as well as some corns may be produced and made fit for consumption within sixty to ninety days. So, it is impossible to think of shortage of food being detrimental to our survival if we only made sufficient exertions to survive.

UNNECESSARY APPARELS

Solution of the problem of shortage of clothing is easier than that of the shortage of food. Time is fast approaching when imports of machinery for spinning and weaving in India for various yet unforeseen reasons may be stopped.

'Charka' and hand-weaving supplied all our textile needs even in the middle of the last century.

Our knowledge of the working of 'Charka' and hand-weaving is more fresh than that of Europe and some other parts of the world. The Dress Civilisation of the West must disappear from among us. Necessity will make it imperative.

To cut short, many items of our present system of dressing ourselves from head to foot with unnecessary load of apparels should go. Let the critics say whatever they may.

But the Charka will spin, the handloom will weave, and all our textile needs will again be supplied by these alone!

THE MADRAS MAIL'S MANNERS

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari has issed the following statement:

On Thursday last, I sent the following letter to the Editor of the *Madras Mail* which had published a report of Mr. Prakasam's speech and a leading article thereon:

"Your representative at Anantapur just told me that some insinuations were made at Andhra Mahasabha Conference that I was in some way responsible for holding up the separation of Andhra from the Madras Province. He left a copy of the *Madras Mail* with me as the train steamed off. I see that you have written a leading article on the subject basing some remarkably tortuous arguments on what was reported as having been disclosed by Mr. Prakasam. You appear to insinuate that someone holding the lever of discipline was responsible for inducing the ex-Governor of Madras to oppose the proposal to separate Andhra. If, as I believe, you mean to insinuate this against me, all that I can say is that I am astonished at this lie. Neither directly nor indirectly did I oppose or induce anyone to oppose the separation. Neither I nor any of my colleagues in the late Government told the Governor or the Secretary of State to hinder or delay the proposal, much less to prevent it. I am surprised that you have chosen to give publicity to this mischievous lie. If I do not take steps to sue you for damages for this libel, it is because of other and more important pre-occupations."

I add d to the above a post-script to the Editor as follows:—"Kindly give publication at once to this letter. I leave it to your sense of fairplay to express unqualified regret."

I have waited for three days, but the Editor of the *Madras Mail* has not chosen to publish my categorical denial, though he was prompt enough to underline and emphasise in a leading article the original baseless attack. I am compelled, therefore, to send this to other papers.

GANDHI ON AMERY

WARDHA.

Commenting on Mr. Amery's recent speech at Manchester, Gandhiji, in a special interview to *The Daily Herald*, says:

"Mr. Amery's Manchester performance does not excite any new reaction in me. Mr. Amery has said nothing new. It is difficult for me to say anything more. Mr. Amery holds certain views which he is entitled to hold. But he does not know India as well as I do. Therefore, I see that by repeating his statement, he is doing no good either to his own country or to India. His repeating the same untruths would not convert untruth to truth!"

* * *

In the past two Indians Mr. Tilak and Sir Shankaran Nair had to file suits in England against Valentine Chirol and Michael O'Dwyer, for defamation. They lost the suits and were fairly broken by British justice!

Does Mr. Gandhi want to turn the tables now, and force Mr. Amery to sue him in India? Will the results be similar? We think not! Ed.

DANISH HONESTY

In Denmark the citizens have such a reputation for honesty that they are allowed to "charge" their street-car fare if they've forgotten their money! Thousands of slips are given out annually for unpaid rides. If a passenger can't locate his money, he merely informs the conductor who issues him a slip; the next day the individual returns the slip and pays his yesterday's fare. Danish street-car companies claim they've had very little loss by following this system.

* * *

In our country we have bundles of punitive legislation against ticketless travel. It is like "giving a dog a bad name and hanging it!"

Ed.

THE PRESENT WAR

ITS REAL CAUSE

Here is a Chinese writer's account of the cause of the war.

"One night," he said during a party, "when I was dining with the Dean of the Graduate College at Princeton, I asked him why the college was situated so far from the university campus. The Dean replied: "Woodrow Wilson, then President of Princeton, wanted this school on the campus. Dean West wanted it out here. The ensuing battle royal split the university wide open. But it was the Dean who secured the necessary money, and naturally he won. And Wilson resigned, later becoming Governor of New Jersey and then President!"

"That," said the Chinese, "started me thinking, and I began to think backward as Chinese are apt to do.

LEAGUE'S FAILURE

"What is the cause of the present World War? Why, the failure of the League of Nations, of course. And why did the League fail? Because the United States refused to join!

"What was back of that refusal? President Wilson declined to take any Republican leaders with him to the Peace Conference, and the snubbed Republicans blocked in the Senate the attempt to take this country into the League.

"And why was such a stubborn man President at such a crucial time? Because he had been elected on his fine record as Governor of New Jersey.

"How did Woodrow Wilson happen to become Governor? Well, he got into a row with Dean West over the location of the Graduate College!

"So you see," mused the Chinese gentleman, "the present location of the Princeton Graduate College is really the cause of the present World War!"

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ITS REAL CAUSE

Here is a Chinese writer's account of the cause of the war.

"One night," he said during a party, "when I was dining with the Dean of the Graduate College at Princeton, I asked him why the college was situated so far from the university campus. The Dean replied: "Woodrow Wilson, then President of Princeton, wanted this school on the campus. Dean West wanted it out here. The ensuing battle royal split the university wide open. But it was the Dean who secured the necessary money, and naturally he won. And Wilson resigned, later becoming Governor of New Jersey and then President!"

"That," said the Chinese, "started me thinking, and I began to think backward as Chinese are apt to do.

LEAGUE'S FAILURE

"What is the cause of the present World War? Why, the failure of the League of Nations, of course. And why did the League fail? Because the United States refused to join!

"What was back of that refusal? President Wilson declined to take any Republican leaders with him to the Peace Conference, and the snubbed Republicans blocked in the Senate the attempt to take this country into the League.

"And why was such a stubborn man President at such a crucial time? Because he had been elected on his fine record as Governor of New Jersey.

"How did Woodrow Wilson happen to become Governor? Well, he got into a row with Dean West over the location of the Graduate College!

"So you see," mused the Chinese gentleman, "the present location of the Princeton Graduate College is really the cause of the present World War!"

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RUSSIA'S WOMEN WARRIORS

The first Russian heroine of this war was a washer-woman, Maria Utkina. When two enemy battalions attacked a small guard detachment on the Finnish frontier she took a rifle and fought beside the men for several hours.

When the detachment was hemmed in, she volunteered to creep through the enemy lines and bring aid from another post. Alone, she wormed her way along secret paths, guided the relief force back, and again took part in the fighting until the enemy troops were repulsed!

Russian women are fighting beside the men in the air, on land, on sea. You find them in the workshops, the laboratories, and at Army and Air Force headquarters, helping to solve problems of strategy. Wherever men serve in the defence of their country, women serve too.

EXPERT SHARPSHOOTERS

It is a fifty-fifty comradeship; she shares the same risks, gets the same pay, claims no privileges. She is in the vanguard of the "scorched earth" squads, working frantically with last-minute desperation to fire buildings, stores, crops, so that the Germans occupy only a desert, in which to perish!

It is no new thing, this mobilization of Russia's Amazons. Kerensky recruited a women's battalion in an effort to stem the German hordes in the last war, and they numbered among them some of the finest sharpshooters in Europe!

Six years ago it was stated that, of the 15,000,000 members of an organization for Chemical and Air Defence, no fewer than one-fifth were women who had devoted all their energies to technical operation and research. Of nearly half-a-million members of rifle clubs, almost half were women who flocked to the ranges in their spare time to prepare themselves for defensive guerilla warfare.

Women pilots and parachutists could be counted by the thousand. Some of them were trained for civil flying, others at military schools where they were treated no differently from men. When I questioned a Soviet official in London on this subject I asked, "Have you military or Air Force academies specially for women?" "We do not need them," he replied, "for in Russia men and women are equal. Both have the same opportunities."

HOLDING HIGH COMMANDS

This war has given women their great chance, for they have been called upon to defend against wanton aggression their very homes, their soil, everything they hold dear. It is said that to-day there are nine women generals or commanders, three of them with the Air Force and each a fully qualified first-class pilot. Up to a few weeks ago one woman pilot of twenty-seven claimed to have shot down "German aircraft!

Can history ever provide a braver spectacle than that of a woman in the cockpit of a Russian fighter shooting down the Hun bullies of the Luftwaffe who rained death and destruction on Warsaw, Rotterdam, London—and the pitiable refugees who jammed the roads of Poland, Holland, Belgium, and France?

Women serve in the Soviet Navy in ships and at depots: they have even been eager to serve in submarines, but the cramped conditions in these have made it impracticable up to the present. You will find many superb horsewomen among the rough-riders of the Kuban and Don Cossacks and other cavalry regiments—women who learned to ride almost as soon as they could walk, attended Cossack schools, mastered the tricks of firing from any position on or under a galloping horse, were trained to wield the sabre, and roughed it with the bravest, most reckless horsemen in the world! G. V.

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The Rationalist.

Monday 8-12-1941.

PUBLIC LIFE

Public life has become grim and sombre. n provincial public life, national politics, and nternational affairs, honesty and truth are ;onspicuous by their absence. Courtesy and ;ood-will which should oil the wheels of ıuman relationship are hardly ever mani- ested. The end,—and selfish end at that—is nore important than the means, and any neans is considered good in order to achieve nowever bad an end. Envy, hatred, anger, ;ovetousness, misrepresentation and slander fill the air, and spread unhappiness on all ;ides, on those who are directly concerned ıs well as on the public at large!

We shall give a few instances.

Mr. Rajagopalachariar, Ex-Premier of Madras, bitterly and angrily complains that ıis erst-while colleague, Mr. Prakasam, has nsinuated that he induced the Governor not ;o agree to the formation of the Andhra Province, and that the Madras Mail has ex- ɔatiated on the news in an unwarranted nanner and refused to make amends. Mr. Prakasam is known to Mysoreans as the person who canvassed shares for "Swarajya" in Mysore some years ago;—How are the shares, Mr. Prakasam? He has since laid the Swarajya to rest, and is no doubt thinking ihat if an Andhra Province takes birth, he ;ould have the pride of being Chief Minister. But why accuse Mr. Rajagopalachari? Was Lord Erskine a baby to be misled into cutting n two a Province which is already smaller ihan many other Presidencies? As for the Madras Mail, its Editor is no doubt nursing ihe old grudge for cutting off his advertis - ment revenue from liquor during the prohibi- ıion days, and so takes this occasion to attack Mr. C. R., and ignores the denial. This Editor is the person whom the Mysore Journalists' Conference thought fit to choose ɔs their President some time ago!

Then Mr. Gandhi, speaking on Mr. Amery's recent statements charges him with untruth, and refuses to take further notice of them, because Mr. Amery charges the Congress as Totalitarian.

Well, we suppose everyone would be totalitarian if he has the chance. Is not Mr. Amery totalitarian? What kind of democracy exactly does he represent? Is his India Secretaryship anything more than an appendage of his Cabinet rank, and is his knowledge, or sympathies with India, greater than those of any other Member in the Cabinet or outside? If not, anything spoken in ignorance is likely to turn out an untruth and offensive to those concerned.

India has seen many kinds of Secretaries of State. Salisbury, Morley, Crew, Chamberlain, Montague, Olivier, Birkenhead, Zetland, Hoare, and now Mr. Amery. The most generous of them could not do much for India, and Mr. Amery does not pretend to be of that class. But it is one thing to stick to one's imperialism and refuse to do anything which may tend to destroy it, and quite another to make-believe that one is democratic and would like to grant self-Government, but that the people themselves are unfit! In fact the people of India are no worse than the people of Great Britain, or Ireland, or South Africa, or Syria or Lebanon, and the Congress has not less influence in the country than the Conservative Party in Great Britain. To argue otherwise should obviously be deemed insincere, and gross perversion of facts for selfish ends. The war effort would not be progressing smoothly as it does if Mr. Gandhi had, instead of being passive, been actively antagonistic to the effort. That would have created a situation similar to that of Ireland, say, in the last war. Therefore Mr. Gandhi, by his very apathy, may be said to be indirectly contributive to the war effort. And yet the public are forced to swallow the fact that His Majesty's Secretary of State utters things which Mr. Gandhi, with all his sobriety, characterises as untruths!

Verily, as Burke said 150 years ago, the Age of Chivalry is gone! Otherwise an expression like that would have provoked a challenge to a duel. But evidently lies and

untruths have in our times become so much the order of the day that everything is passed over lightly in wordy recrimination!

And in grave England, in the sanctified precincts of the House of Commons, Mr. McGovern characterises Premier Churchill as inconsistent, and his Atlantic Charter as a "gross piece of deceit," and the dashing Mr. Eden who sought to answer, had no word to say in defence of Mr. Churchill, or of the indelicacy of Mr. McGovern's language, but instead ventured the old half-truth about India,—"Why did he not tell us that there are 70 million people living in Indian States which have been in Indian hands for a long period, and that there is no great movement of the population from British India into those States? Because one of the fundamental problems in India is that many Indians do not wish to be ruled by certain other Indians."

But then do many Indians wish to be ruled by certain Europeans? Is that not a problem more fundamental? And does Hertzog wish to be ruled by Smutts? Do the French Canadians wish to be ruled by British Canadians? Why was Curtin so resentful of the rule of Menzies? And how did Mr. Eden himself like being ruled by Baldwin and Chamberlain?

With regard to the Native States, what are Mr. Eden's implications? Does he mean that they are badly ruled? Does he mean that they are bereft of the influence of white men? Does he mean that if the British Indian people disliked white rule they ought to have migrated to the Native States?

But why? When there is a bad Government the people try to change it. When there is an *alien* Government the people try to change it. The country is the people's. Why should they leave it to the Government and migrate?

But such are the sentiments, such the arguments of so-called statesmen holding high places in public life! But holding high places in public life is different from being held high in public esteem! That will never be so long as their methods are what they are, characterised by self-interest, misrepresentation, and rank abuse!

Editor.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

If you really want to know what a country is like, you must leave the train and proceed on Shanks's pony, by bicycle, car, motor-bus, boat, or scooter; for railways cut through a landscape like a scalpel, so to speak, while high-roads and rivers pass across it organically, by routes, which, for centuries, life itself has traversed. The landscape which you see from the train is monotonous and devoid of charm; but saunter through it by other routes, and you will discover trees, people, villages, traces of history, and possibly even the soul of the place!

"The finest landscape I have seen is in Italy, the finest life I have observed is in France, the finest people I have met are in England, but it is only in my own country that I can live!"

KAREL CAPEK.

A WORLD FEDERATION AFTER WAR

HENRY FORD'S PREDICTION

A new era of prosperity, based on inventive genius, will emerge from the present world conflict, says Henry Ford.

The nations are on the verge of binding together to form a federation of the whole world.

These views were given by Mr. Ford, in a survey of the international situation on his 78th birth-day at his home in Detroit.

"I never hated war more than I do to-day," he said.

"I blame about 100 profit-seeking munitions makers for present conditions. But after this war, there will be more tolerance in the world, because there will be more understanding."

Asked what he regarded as the greatest event of his career, Ford said simply: "Meeting Mrs. Ford, and marrying her!"

POPULATION OF INDIA

LATEST CENSUS FIGURES

NEW DELHI.

The following Press Communique has been issued :—

The All-India population discovered at the recent Census was 388.8 millions as on 1st March, 1941. The 1931 figure for the corresponding year was 338.1 millions, representing an increase of 15 per cent. The level of increase in British India is 15.2 per cent and in the States and Agencies 14.3 per cent. The picture is one of general increase, rather higher in British India than in the States, and only in part of Baluchistan and a few minor States is a decrease recorded.

The rate of increase is particularly marked in cities, i.e., towns with not less than 100,000 inhabitants. The number of such towns has appreciably increased from 1931, while the individual increase rates vary from just below 11 per cent to almost a 100 in the case of Cawnpore, which has nearly doubled itself in the decade.

The North-West Frontier Province among the major provinces records the largest increase of population, namely, 25 per cent, while Bengal which has the next largest increase, namely, 20 per cent also has the largest number of literates, namely, 9,720,000.

Madras has the next largest number of literates, namely, 6,420,000.

The Andaman and Nicobar islands have the smallest number of literates, namely, 6,000.

Delhi, India's capital and a Chief Commissioner's Province, registers an increase of population of 44 per cent.

The following table gives the population of Provinces, Indian States and Agencies for 1941 and 1931 and also figures of literacy for 1941 :—

(All figures are in thousands).

	Population Persons 1941	Persons 1931	Increase or Decrease per cent		Literate persons, 1941
1	2	3		4	5
India ...	388,800	338,119	plus	15.0	47,322.7
Provinces ...	295,827	256,755	,,	15.2	37,016.2
1. Madras ...	49,342	44,205	,,	11.6	6,420.9
2. Bombay ...	20,858	17,992	,,	15.9	4,067.8
3. Bengal ...	60,314	50,116	,,	20.3	9,720.4
4. United Provinces ...	55,021	48,409	,,	13.6	4,653.3
Agra ...	40,906	35,614	,,	15.1	3,731.8
Oudh ...	14,114	12,795	,,	10.4	921.5
5. Punjab ...	28,419	23,581	,,	20.4	3,665.7
6. Bihar ...	36,343	32,371	,,	12.3	3,339.7
Bihar ...	23,824	25,729	,,	12.0	2,684.8
Chota Nagapur ...	7,516	6,642	,,	13.1	653.9
7. Central Provinces and Berar ...	16,822	15,323	,,	9.8	1,909.7
Central Provinces ...	13,220	11,881	,,	11.3	1,352.3
Berar ...	3,602	3,442	,,	4.6	556.9
8. Assam ...	10,205	8,623	,,	18.2	1,174.3
9. North-West Frontier Province ...	3,038	2,425	,,	25.2	233.9
10. Orissa ...	8,729	8,026	,,	8.2	948.2
11. Sind ...	4,527	3,887	,,	16.7	473.8
12. Ajmer-Merwara ...	584	507	,,	15.1	79.0
13. Andaman and Nicobar Islands ...	34	29	,,	16.5	6.9
Andaman Islands ...	21	19	,,	11.8	...
Nicobar Islands ...	13	10	,,	22.5	...
14. Baluchistan ...	502	464	,,	8.2	52.3
15. Coorg ...	169	163	,,	3.3	34.6
16. Delhi ...	917	636	,,	44.1	235.7
States and Agencies ...	92,973	81,367	,,	14.3	10,306.5
17. Assam States ...	725	626	,,	15.9	57.4
18. Baluchistan States ...	356	405	Minus	12.1	8.1
19. Baroda State ...	2,855	2,448	plus	16.6	656.8
20. Bengal States ...	2,142	1,863	,,	14.9	127.5
21. Central India Agency ...	7,502	6,648	,,	12.8	525.4
22. Chattisgarh States ...	4,054	3,548	,,	14.2	157.6
23. Cochin State ...	1,423	1,205	,,	18.1	...
24. Deccan (and Kolhapur) States ...	2,786	2,458	,,	13.4	364.5
25. Gujarat States ...	1,457	1,265	,,	15.2	119.2
26. Gwalior State ...	3,992	3,523	,,	13.3	296.8
27. Hyderabad State ...	16,194	14,436	,,	12.1	1,111.2
28. Kashmir State (including Feudatories) ...	4,021	3,646	,,	10.3	264.2
Kashmir ...	3,945	3,582	,,	10.1	263.0
Frontier Illaqas in Gilgit ...	76	64	,,	18.2	1.2
29. Madras States Pudukotta, Banganapalle and Sandur ...	499	453	,,	10.0	66.1
30. Mysore State ...	7,329	6,557	,,	11.8	696.4
31. North-west Frontier Province (Agencies and Tribal Areas) ...	2,378	2,259	,,	5.3	19.2

32. Orissa States	...	3,025	2,683	„	12.7	268.9
33. Punjab States	...	5,450	4,497	„	21.4	334.8
34. Punjab Hill States	...	1,094	990	„	10.5	80.8
35. Rajputana Agency	...	13,670	11,571	„	18.1	772.5
36. Sikkim State	...	122	110	„	10.9	5.9
37. Travancore State	...	6,070	5,096	„	19.1	2,894.4
38. United Provinces States (Rampur and Benares)	...	926	856	„	8.3	57.6
39. Western India States Agency	...	4,901	4,222	„	16.1	717.2

The population figures in this table in most cases represent the final determination but in a few areas sorting is still to be completed. There will, however, be no appreciable difference.

The literacy figures for 1941 are in all cases those taken out provisionally from the enumerators' books.

HOW THEY SPEAK IN PARLIAMENT

Mr. McGovern, speaking on the King's Speech in the House of Commons said that his party (which has two other representatives besides himself in Parliament) was opposed to the war in every way. Stating that Mr. Churchill did not regard the war as a war against Fascists, Mr. McGovern said, "The Prime Minister's mind is more akin to Fascists than any Fascist, and it has been transformed to-day into lip service for freedom while the whole position is really commercial and imperial. On February 24, 1933, Mr. Churchill had said that British interests required them to keep out of the quarrel which had broken out in the Far East and not wantonly throw away their old and valued friendship with Japan, and it was in the interest of the whole world that law and order should be established in the northern part of China because China was in the same state that India would fall into if the guiding hand of England was withdrawn. The Prime Minister was both a self-confessed advocate of aggression and a defender of Fascist aggression."

Mr. McGovern continued, "In my estimation the Atlantic Charter was one of the grossest pieces of deceit in modern times I have ever seen. It is to be applied to nations that have been overrun by Hitler while the independent government which it proposes to give them is denied to territories that have been overrun in the past by Britain herself!"

PREMIER'S ATTITUDE TO INDIA

Regarding India, Mr. Churchill had said that he was convinced that Indian political parties were not going to be given Dominion Status or responsible government for all India in any period which it was worth while to consider now. The Prime Minister, asserted Mr. McGovern, was a self-confessed opponent even of Dominion Status for those colonial territories which were occupied by Britain.

As regards America coming into the war, Mr. McGovern said, "I am under no illusion. America at the moment is prepared to use British bodies to blast a way into the markets of the continent and to re-establish there the financial system of Wall Street."

MR. EDEN AND THE STATES

"Mr. McGovern drew a parallel between our rule in India, where, he said, people were condemned to slavery, and the German rule in Europe. I cannot think he believes that that is a true parallel. In India to-day there are several hundred millions of people. There are a handful of white officials. There are States where the white man is scarcely seen. Ninety per cent of matters which affect the people of India are dealt with now in provincial bodies, where Indians can and do exercise authority.

"The honourable member is fully entitled to make his criticisms of the Government of India and the way our rule in India is administered, but I wonder why he did not put anything on the other side of the balance sheet. Why did he not tell us that there are seventy million people living in Indian States which have been in the Indian hands for a long period and that there is no great movement of the population from British India into those States? Why not? Because one of the fundamental problems in India is that many Indians do not with to be ruled by certain other Indians!"

* * * *

What an unwarranted slap on the Indian States! Ed.

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PERSIAN POETRY

ASAF JAH DYNASTY'S PATRONAGE

Hyderabad

"Famous court poets of India and Iran" was the subject of an interesting extension lecture delivered under the auspices of the Osmania University by Mr. R. P. Masani, Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University.

Mr. Masani said that Sultan Sikandar Lodi, Baber and his descendants and the rulers of Ahmednagar, Bijapur, and Golconda were great patrons of poetry and learning and several of them could themselves string pearls of poetry. Giving several specimens from the verses of Baber, Humayun, Shah Tahir Dakhani, Akbar, Faizi, Urfi, Nazari, Sa'ib, Zuhuri, Shahjahan, Salim, Nur Jahan and Saidi, Mr. Masani said that the Indian summer of Persian poetry was followed by autumn. But thanks to the gifted rulers in the Deccan and the princes of the house of Asaf Jah, the founder of the Nizam's dynasty, the literary life of the Mughal period was revived in the nineteenth century. The political convulsions in Iran in the twentieth century gave rise to a new school of poets and to a free press. In a country where politics could only be discussed in whispers, journals sprang up which fearlessly criticised the rulers and freely expressed their opinion on the political affairs of the day. There was no place then for court poets and panegyrists. During Raza Shah's regime there was no court poet, but the lecturer found during his visit to Iran in 1932 that, though not officially recognised as such, Poet Bahar was hailed as a Court Poet.

After giving specimens from the works of other poets such as Afzar and Arif, the lecturer concluded his discourse by paying a tribute to the Rulers of the Asaf Jah dynasty for keeping aloft the torch of learning lit by the rulers of Delhi and Deccan!

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

JAWAHARLAL NEHRUS' PLEA

LUCKNOW.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made his first public utterance after his release when he addressed a meeting at the Khadi and Industrial Exhibition on the "place of cottage industries in the country's economic life."

Mr. Nehru observed that what was happening in the world would not leave India untouched. War might come to India's shores. Even if it did not come to India, it had to be realised that the war was the outcome of a force which was bound to overtake them. He added: "I would be neither shocked nor worried by the falling of bombs and the consequent crashing of buildings in India, for I hope, it may open our eyes to what is happening in the world."

Referring to his visit to war zones in China, Mr. Nehru expressed his great admiration at the part played by the Chinese people. What had impressed him most was that, side by side with waging war they were creating a new order and building up the country and the nation. He described how quickly they hade made up for the damage caused by war. Universities were run in thatched cottages if the buildings were ruined, for, they did not want the mental training of the people to suffer by the war. Spain spent four times the normal expenditure on education during war time.

CHINA'S RECOVERY

If Indians had power in their own hands, Mr. Nehru added, conditions would have been different in India too. Japan blockaded China but the latter stood up to the occasion. They organised the Chinese Co-operative Industries. They started cottage industries in all departments and produced even war materials. Those cottage industries had now changed the face of the country. "This has given China a democratic system," he observed, and added that there were now at least thirty thousand Co-operative Societies in China. These cottage industries were very mobile during attacks unlike the big ones. The speaker believed that big industries were as necessary for India as cottage industries. Why should we not benefit by science, he asked.

Continuing Mr. Jawaharlal said: "We should not solve our problems theoretically. We should look to the human factor. We have to produce wealth and to make judicious distribution of it. It will be unjust if some people are very rich and others very poor. Solution lies in the organisation of big industries as well as cottage industries and if we prepare from now, we will be prepared to face whatever may happen!"

THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND JUDGE HOLMES

Writing about the independence of the Judiciary in an American magazine, William Hard, a Washington political observer, reveals how the famous American writer-cum-Judge, Oliver Wendell Holmes, once snubbed President Theodore Roosevelt.

More and more the members of our boards and commissions have duties which are quasi-judicial, he says. More and more they have to have the spirit of judges. They may well remember Oliver Wendell Holmes. He was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Theodore Roosevelt. Shortly afterwards Roosevelt said to him: "I would like to discuss a pending case with you." Holmes drew himself up to his full Civil War height, glared, said "By God, sir, I am a judge," turned on his heel and walked out of the White House!

That spirit must animate our quasi-judicial officials. We must have a Government personnel that shall be above all improper pressures whatsoever. Every citizen can do something about it, by demanding that spirit.

* * *

We demand that spirit from the Judges of Mysore. In the absence of it there can be no Judicial sanctity, and no reason for immunity from criticism. Ed.

A NATION MUST DEFEND ITS LIBERTY

PATNA.

"Lust, greed and racial pride are the three chief things that have caused illfeeling between man and man. Even in days when humanity lived not by agriculture but by hunting, there was the remarkable tendency to wage war against each other," observed Sir C. V. Raman, in the course of a public speech on "Science and War."

Sir C. V. Raman said that Science was essential for human existence and progress. It should not be blamed for the destruction of human lives and properties.

"I think the blame for wars and all the ravages that may follow from it must be put on the shoulders of those who have guided the course of human history. War is a sort of cyclic process. Success in aggression encourages the aggressor to achieve more victories, be it by brutality or otherwise, and defeat on the other hand, gives rise to a feeling of revenge in the vanquished. In that way, the feeling of animosity persists, leading to perpetual conflict."

War entirely depended upon three factors, *viz.*, influence of a particular individual with military genius, development of new ideals of military strategy, and lastly the invention of new weapons for the destruction of humanity, and there, he said, Science stepped in side by side with war.

Sir C. V. Raman, concluding, said that aggression should, however, be paid back in the same coin, and to defend against aggression was a virtue of mankind. Those who did not desire the liberty and freedom of their nation and those who ceased to be dynamic, had no right to exist in this world.

* * *

What exactly does the last sentence mean? And whom does it refer to? Ed.

THE DEWAN

The Dewan, Mr. Rajamanthra Praveena N. Madhava Rao, who opened the Indian Bank branch in Mysore on the 11th evening, honcured the Mysore Co-operative Society, Ltd., with a surprise visit. He made enquiries about the details of the Sales as well as the Banking Sections of the Society, and was conducted round both and was pleased to see the working of the institution, which has a membership of over 3000. Before leaving, he was met by the President, Mr. G. R. Josyer, who welcomed him to the Society on behalf of the Managing Committee, and conveyed to him their pleasure and grateful thanks for the gracious visit!

READERS' OPINIONS

"Many thanks for your very kind review regarding "Peace and Happiness" in your esteemed paper of the 24th inst. Will you please send me by V.P.P. as many copies of the said issue as you can spare?" A. A.

SECUNDERABAD.

"I am much pleased to have received the copy of the "Rationalist," and have read with much interest your Editorial on 'Fourth of July.' It is well expressed. The last paragraph expresses a hope which I certainly reciprocate!"

H. E. F.

NEW YORK.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, BANGALORE

We have great pleasure in informing you that it has been decided to celebrate the COLLEGE DAY this year during the 2nd week of January 1942. May we request you kindly to join us in the COLLEGE DAY celebrations and help the committee to make it a success by your contributions and presence on the occasion?

All contributions may kindly be remitted to Mr. C. Gopalakrishnan, B.Sc., B.E., A.M.I.E., Senior Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering, Bangalore.

BOMBAY MILLOWNERS AND WORKERS

BOMBAY.

A war bonus equivalent to two annas in the rupee on their total earnings in the period between January 1 1941 and December 31, 1941, inclusive, will be granted to all cotton mill workers who are on the musters of permanent and 'badli' workers on December 31, 1941.

This decision was arrived at at an urgent general meeting of the Bombay Mill-Owners' Association held to-day to consider the recommendations made by the Committee of the Association in connection with the grant of a war bonus to the operatives employed in cotton mills situated in the city and island of Bombay, which are members of the Association.

The bonus will be calculated on the earnings exclusive of the dearness allowance. In the case of women who have been on maternity leave in the period referred to, the actual maternity allowance drawn by them will be included in their wage for the purpose of calculating the bonus payable. The payment of bonus will not apply to 'badli' workers who have worked less than an aggregate period of 75 days.

It is further announced that the bonus will be paid to workers on February 21 next.

It is estimated that textile workers in the city will be benefited to the extent of one crore of rupees by the grant of the bonus.

* * *

We wonder what the Bangalore Mill-owners have to say to this! We are not misled by the fulsome commendations given to them by Labour Commissioner after Labour Commissioner, and recently by a Judicial Commissioner. Mysore officials are often apt to be carried away by the wealth and influence of the Mill-owners, and to put forth the plausible defences of the Mill-owners as ultimate truth for public consumption. But the public knows better! Ed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge with thanks two pamphlets on the Cottage Industries in the State from the Director of Industries and Commerce. They deal with 33 kinds of Cottage industries in the promotion of which the Department is engaged, from mat, paper and button-making to handloom weaving in various village centres all over the State. The outlay ranges from Rs. 180 for button-making to Rs. 69,000 for khadi production. We presume that the work is now confined to uneducated villagers. If they are popularised among the educated classes also we fancy that it would be all the better. Ed.

ENGLAND AND INDIAN INDUSTRIES

The following account of the mission of Mr Guy Locock in India in connection with the Eastern Group Council is taken from *The Railway Gazette of London*

"Mr Guy Locock Director of the Federation of British Industries, has just returned from his visit to India as a member of the Ministry of Supply Mission to that country, and as delegated to the Eastern Group Conference, New Delhi. The recommendations of the Mission are naturally confidential, but Mr Locock has no doubt that their effect on war production in the Eastern Group is likely to be considerable. As Board of Trade representative on the Mission, he was entrusted with the task of appraising future effects on British Industry of the war production expansion now being undertaken, always keeping in mind the necessity for giving priority to vital war needs.

There can be no doubt that the present war, like its 1914-18 predecessor, will accelerate industrialisation of India and other Eastern countries. At the same time, Mr Locock holds the view that no steps have been taken to expand production as a result of the Mission's visit, which are not essential for war purposes, and that on the whole post-war interests of British industry are not likely to suffer so greatly as was at one time expected. Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that increased industrial production has to be anticipated in the post-war period in India, to a greater extent in Australia and to a smaller extent in South Africa and many peacetime problems will arise for the British exporter once replenishment demands are met."

* * *

The above shows the commercial mentality of the British business-man even in the midst of a devastating war! Ed.

CURE OF EYE DEFECTS

MADRAS.

Dr R S Agarwal of Delhi, speaking on "Perfect Eyesight without Glasses," said that the cause of defective eye-sight being strain, it was possible to make the eyes function in a normal way by keeping the mind at rest and avoiding straining of the eyeballs. He demonstrated the proper way of using the eyes for reading, writing, sewing and seeing pictures in cinema houses, and added that the eye-lids helped to keep the eyes in good condition. He emphasised the importance of "blinking" in a natural, unforced way.

Pointing out that the sun afforded great help in the curing of eye defects, Dr. Agarwal added that one should face the sun in the morning with closed eyes from five to thirty minutes, gently swaying the body all the while. This might be followed by washing the eyes in cold water and covering up the eyes with the palms, without pressing on the eyeballs so as to cause discomfort.

Dr. Agarwal said that whether or not glass were used, these methods were bound to be beneficial to the eye.

The Rationalist.
Monday 15-12-1941.

MYSORE PAPER

We also mean Paper in Mysore. Some one wrecked in mid-ocean is said to have exclaimed in despair,

"Water, water everywhere,
Not a drop to drink!"

So with a manufactory producing 4000 tons of paper, Mysoreans are reduced to a state of panic for lack of paper! 90 per cent of the printing presses in the State are on the verge of ruin. Much beneficent literary work is brought to a stand still. Apart from the normal requirements of schools and students, even the limited quantity required for examinations is not available. Lawyers who have to do some amount of writing on a particular quality of paper apart from a lot of talking, find that they have nothing to write on! The list could be stretched ad-infinitum!

If it were a mere consequence of the war, we could have cursed Hitler and awaited his destruction without complaint. But with a much-petted and much-fondled Paper Factory at our doors, the curse has to be reserved for persons nearer home.

We have long deferred voicing this complaint. We have sought to see the view-point of the Management and the Distributing Agency. And we are disgusted by the view-point. They all pretend to be great public benefactors; but when it comes to a question of supplying you paper, not for charity but at their bloated war-time prices, they hum and haw, and make evasive replies, and try to send you from pillar to post without any earthly benefit.

Judging from the Company's Agency list and price list, you would think that its paper is available in innumerable places, and that it also produces all the usual varieties. But nothing of the sort! Its stockists are merely such in name. They cannot supply you any thing you require, and nothing at a reasonable price. They will themselves complain about the Company and its distributors,—whom we have heard described as a second Hitler! Or if they have received some supply they hush it up and say it is for their own use, or they will have sold it in bulk to foreign profiteers. And so owners of printing presses have to go from dealer to dealer like beggars, and with much worse luck than beggars!

It is strange that things should be so inefficient, and be so mismanaged as this. The Chairman and the Secretary are Government officers of experience. They stand in the position of Paper Controllers, without the name. They ought to be able to manage things much better, or will have to be replaced by others more able to satisfy public demands. We have received provocation enough to put it more strongly. But since, subsequent to making up our mind to writing this article, we have had occasion to mention this matter to the Dewan, we have tempered our anger and are concerned more to rectify the evil than to condemn the personages concerned.

The Paper Company is a semi-Government concern started with much State aid, managed by Government officers, and supported by many Government Departments. It cannot say, like the Binny or Sirur Mills, that it will produce what it likes, and sell it to whomsoever it likes, at whatsoever price it likes. It must produce wisely so as to cater to public demands, and distribute it justly.

Just now everything seems to be inefficient and unbusiness-like. To get paper from the Company is a chance for most presses in the State. Big presses, wielding big influence and making big profits, like the Bangalore Press, Wesley Press, Modi Press, and perhaps the Chickpet Power Press, are able to get their paper. Dealers who can telephonically bombard the Chairman or Secretary or the distributor, or who can bring to bear on the Chairman the influences of officials higher in cadre or in Durbar precedence than the Chairman, can get paper. And some who have touched the soft side of the Secretary and his establishment or the Distributor and his establishment somehow or other can get paper.

Paper is available for the Educational Department's good and bad text books. Paper is available for the University's vapid and inane and ephemeral publications. But paper is not available for Vedic and Sanskrit works required for Sanskrit studies, works of religious importance, and works of permanent importance which will live long after the Paper Company is dead and buried. And paper is not available to the smaller presses on the meagre earnings of which both the proprietors and workmen make a hand-to-mouth living.

This is horrid! And yet those concerned have the cheek to tell you, "If you are not satisfied, some others are satisfied!" And you on behalf of the public of Mysore have no option but to fight it out and see whether such a state of things could be put an end to or not.

The Paper Company and its Distributors have no business to feed some presses only and starve other presses. The Paper Company have no business to be wedded to so many middle men who raise the prices from 200 to 400 per cent in most cases, and also export large quantities to outside places. To say that the Paper Company is unable to control this State of affairs is absurd. As the Chairman of the Paper Company is himself a Government Officer there is no need to have a war-time Paper Controller. If his other engagements do not give him time to attend to this concern, a whole-time Chairman will have to be appointed so that he might improve the working of the Factory as well as arrange a more business-like method of distribution.

The present evil of unlimited export has to be curtailed. It is even open to Government to stop export of Paper from the State under the present circumstances through their emergent powers.

The present evil of too many profiteering middlemen who hide their supplies or double or treble their prices, has also to be stopped. And the present evil of preferential treatment to Bangalore Printers, while leaving those of Mysore and elsewhere in the lurch, has also to be removed, and similar facilities provided for the others also. The public therefore hope that the Government will note the urgency of the matter and see that things are not allowed to drift down-hill as at present, for the good name of the Paper Company, for the good name of the Government themselves, and in the interests of the public at large! *Editor.*

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF SELECTED MYSORE VILLAGES

On the recommendation of the Census Superintendent in Mysore, the Government have sanctioned the proposals for conducting an economic survey of a few villages on a regional and sampling basis, as such an enquiry may throw useful light on the present economic condition in rural areas, and furnish authoritative data for proceeding with any scheme of rural reconstruction. Under this scheme it is proposed to select about 300 villages at the rate of 30 per district on the basis of (i) their situation, (ii) their size, (iii) preponderence of any particular main community like Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Vokkaligars, etc., (iv) the presence or absence of industries subsidiary to agriculture, (v) existence of educational and medical facilities, (vi) their proximity to industrial and commercial centres or other urban areas, (vii) their accessibility by road or rail, (viii) the nature of crops grown, and (ix) any other special features like the existence of sericulture or handspinning, the selection being confined to places where competent men who are educated, intelligent and enthusiastic and wield sufficient influence in the village and command confidence of the people, are available for conducting the enquiry. The information will be gathered in respect of a village as a unit instead of the individual families. A small honorarium will be given to the workers based on the size of the village at Rs. 10 for a small village, Rs. 20 for a medium village, and Rs. 30 for a big village.

The cost on account of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 9,000.

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SITA AND TRUTH

A thoughtless and random observation of Rt. Hon'ble Srinivasa Sastry and Mr. S. Satyamurthy about Sita at a public meeting in Madras, has given rise to the following controversy which should be of interest to our readers:

To illustrate his dictum that "There were occasions when by speaking the truth, they would do much more harm than good," Mr. S. Satyamurti is reported to have cited "the classic example of Sita denying to her guards any knowledge of who Hanuman was though she had been speaking to him a moment before." The reference to Sita in that particular context was most unhappy, unfortunate and irrelevant. Sita had been kept captive by an unscrupulous kidnapper and she completely turned the tables on the guards by retorting that they best knew who it could be as only a serpent would know the movements of another serpent. (literally-feet-Sundarakanda-42-9.) The Mahabharata mentions *five* types of untruth or lie which have ethical and moral sanction; matrimony, love-affair, danger to life, total loss of all property and possessions, and the cause of a Brahmin ethically and morally make it a duty to lie or hide the truth. Sita just followed this ancient and timeless ideal. It is astonishing to read the remark made by the Rt. Hon. V. S. S Sastri. He is reported to have said—"Sita tried to escape by means of a lie, but, she did not succeed." The context would require that the remark must refer to the lie—namely, denial of all knowledge about Hanuman. Then, it is preposterous to say that Sita *did not succeed*. As a matter of fact, she succeeded remarkably well in striking terror into the hearts of the guards and putting them completely off the scent for the nonce. The question of Sita's "escape" does not arise. She was then in no imminent danger. She was doubtless in captivity. From that captivity no amount of lying or truth-telling would free her. Rama's arrows alone would. Thus, in the Sundarakanda-context she was in no imminent danger. There was no need for her to "try to escape." *A fortiori* no need to utter a lie for the purpose of securing escape. What other context then had the Rt. Hon. Sastri in mind? I can assure the Rt. Hon. Sastri that on no occasion whatever did Sita try "to escape by means of a lie"—a lie by the way which had not the fullest moral and ethical sanction behind it. I would earnestly appeal for a correct and proper approach to the classics.

R. NAGA RAJA SARMA.

In the course of their speeches on Mahatma Gandhi on Saturday (22nd instant), both Mr. Satyamurti and the Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri referred to Sita's alleged telling of a lie when she was asked about Hanuman by the demonesses. The later verses in Chapter 42 of the Sundara Kanda show that the object of the Rakshasis was to drag a confession out of Sita's own mouth and thereby lead to Hanuman's judicial murder! If her own life alone was involved in the matter, she would have spoken outright as she had told the truth bluntly to Ravana's own face a few minutes earlier. After all what did she say to the Rakshasis? She said: "How could I know all your delusive ways? You yourself know who he is and what he will do. A serpent knows the feet of another serpent. I am also afraid of him and do not know him." The demonesses interpreted her non-committal mood aright and realised that she did not want to reveal all the facts about Hanuman and thus harm him. They conveyed to Ravana all the materials needed for a sentence of death on Hanuman and only tried to drag a confession out of Sita's own mouth. Thus Sita had cleverly, adroitly, honestly and honourably reconciled her loyalty to her saviour who was in danger of his life!

K. S. RAMASWAMI SASTRI.

HINDU MAHASABHA SESSION

MR. SAVARKAR'S STATEMENT

"Peace or order which is to be maintained as a duty on the part of the Government is that which enables the law-abiding to exercise their legitimate right, and not that which could only be maintained by compelling the law-abiding to forego their right and to placate the aggressive and the criminal," says Mr. V. D. Savarkar, President of the All-India Hindu Maha Sabha, in the course of a lengthy statement in connection with the ban imposed on the Maha Sabha's annual session at Bhagalpore by the Bihar Government.

Mr. Savarkar describes in detail the position of the Hindu Maha Sabha *vis-a-vis* the ban and continues, "The time will come when we must correct this mistaken notion and prove to the Government that although the law-abiding and gentle Hindus ought to value peace and order much, yet they must prize honour much more."

Mr. Savarkar calls upon all branches of the Hindu Maha Sabha in particular and the Hindu Sangathanist public in general, to observe the All-India Bhagalpore Day on December 14 throughout India in order to impress the Government of India with the seriousness of the situation and to urge the Viceroy to intervene and lift the ban on the annual session.

* * *

We do not think that the Bihar Government would have dared to ban a Muslim League Session similarly. Yet Sir Sultan Ahmad speaks of Muslims being in despair!

Ed.

VIGILANCE WORK IN MADRAS

STRI SADHANA'S ACTIVITIES

The report of the "Stri Sadhana" (the Central Rescue Home) says that the year had seen steady progress in the work of the institution in every direction in the city and, especially, in the mofussil. The fears that were once entertained by the public as to the difficulty of getting or the possibility of inducing girls of a particular type to live an orderly and disciplined life, were now mere memories. Public apathy had also diminished a good deal. In the Rescue Home itself, the programme of work and activities had become fuller and richer in many ways; the Home had now its own higher elementary arts and crafts school organised recently by the Government. It sent 24 girls to a convent school and placed over 130 girls in fairly satisfactory positions in life. It afforded an asylum of a temporary or semi-permanent character to nearly 200 girls; it was coming to be looked upon by people in the city and throughout the province as a real "Saranalaya" for girls who but for it would have inevitably become victims to trafficking. The Home had been able to cure many girls of dangerous diseases and had sent them out with clean bills of health. The outside activities of the staff of the Home consisted of investigations of places suspected of trafficking, patrolling on railway platforms and in several parts of the city, and after-care work among the cases which once had passed through the Home. It was gratifying to record that the Welfare Worker was now consulted by the public in a variety of cases of social maladjustment; it was a matter for thankfulness that in nearly all the cases partial or full success was attained. The girls of the Home were encouraged to engage themselves in several beneficial activities, four were undergoing nurses' training and nine others were married under auspicious conditions. The mofussil work of the institution—getting the (Immoral Traffic) Act extended to places where such a step was found necessary, forming vigilance committees to do propaganda and getting "shelters" opened in all municipal areas—was now making a definite and insistent demand on the time of the welfare worker. Adequate response to it could not be long delayed. It had been a reassuring sign that the Municipalities and the public had taken greater interest in moral welfare work and that a few of the former had taken it up as part of their regular municipal programme, while certain of them had shared with the Government and the Association the expenditure on the Welfare Worker's tour. At present the Act was in force in 38 places, 22 vigilance committees were functioning and seven shelters were working.

* * *

A good record. In this respect Mysore is still backward. Ed.

A BRITISHER ON HATHA YOGA

In a Liverpool convalescent home, last month death came to a Briton named Alfred Charles Nunes Arnold at the ripe old age of 112.

The secret of his longevity he ascribed to Hat Yoga in which he was initiated by a yogi at Benares

Giving an account of his life *Time* writes:

Alfred intended to be a singer but instead shunte into newspaper reporting. He spent many year news-gathering on the Continent. In the early 90' when he was sixty he went to Malaya to edit a paper moved on to Japan to become European editor o Tokyo's *Japan Times*. In 1899, just after th beginning of Philippine-U. S. hostilities, Alfre arrived in Manila. Filipinos arrested the ambitiou news-hawk of 71 as a spy and left him bound an stripped in the jungle to be slowly devoured by flies U. S. troops rescued him. Later he went to th U. S. and worked on a San Francisco paper.

AT BENARES

In 1902, Alfred went to India. In Benares he me an eminent yogi, Chakananda Swami, who was ther 147, and who taught Alfred the hoary *Hata-Yog* secrets of vitality. During World War I, a ripene newsman of 86, he entered Germany on a forge neutral passport. He was arrested at Frankfort on-the-Main, but was saved by the sportsmanshi of the consul of the country from which Alfre supposedly came. In 1926, the mature reporter o 98 was arrested in Portugal, condemned to death and thrown into a dungeon. He escaped with jailer's help and got back to England.

As middle age passed. Alfred settled down t quieter labours. He made translations (he ha learned six languages). In 1933, at 104, he appeare as a fireman in a British film. At 106, he said: " have always been a boy. I am still a boy. Hov old do I look? Forty? Perhaps fifty...If I had no met a great Indian Yoga teacher in Benares... should not even have reached my century."

RHYTHMIC BREATHING

A few years ago, he found it convenient to live i London's St. Pancras Hospital. At 110, when Worl War began, he took singing lessons again "in orde to entertain the soldiers, since they won't let m fight."

During the blitz, Alfred was removed to the Liverpool convalescent home. There, as for years he continued to follow the teachings of Chakananda Swami. The great Yogi, Alfred declared, ha taught him "how to link up all the physical, menta and spiritual forces of the body by concentratio and rhythmic breathing. Under his guidance I gav up meat-eating. I perform these breathing exercise morning and night. They are not the kind of thin for a lazy person. They need immense mental con centration ..... As I perform these exercises, I fee the living ether streaming into my body an pervading it right from the nape of the neck to th feet. That is real living."

* * *

This is mostly our Daily Pranayama. But we have learnt to look upon it as a fad, and are blind to its worth! Ed

SOME NOTABLE BOOKS.

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